₱3B deposited in Velarde account in 11 months

STORY ON PAGE A16

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: www.inquirer.net

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2001 ★ 32 PAGES 2 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 41 ₱15

Peso dives to 55.75 against the dollar

BY DORIS C. DUMLAO AND CLARISSA S. BATINO

"LOCAL stocks and the peso twisted in the wind on Wednesday, a day after the Senate impeachment court barred prosecutors access to President Estrada's alleged secret bank accounts.

The bloodbath in the financial markets left

PESO/ A16

FVR: Erap rule stinks like Metro garbage

BY ALCUIN PAPA, TJ BURGONIO AND PHILIP TUBEZA

"THE SENATE action has triggered Edsa 2," former President Fidel Ramos warned yesterday, calling on the military and the police to take to the streets with and behind people "who no longer want to be ruled by a leadership that

FVR/ A16

Constitutional crisis

Senate damaged, House paralyzed

BY MARTIN P. MARFIL, JULIET L. JAVELLANA AND VOLT CONTRERAS

A CONSTITUTIONAL crisis looms in the wake of the indefinite adjournment of the impeachment trial of President Estrada following the resignation of the 11-member House prosecution, according to opposition legislators.

The adjournment also came after Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. resigned from the top Senate post and Sen. Sergio Osmeña III took a permanent leave of absence as a judge of the impeachment trial.

The country is now faced with a "damaged" Senate, a House of Representatives in "paralysis," an impeached President and a possible postponement of the May national elections.

A resignation by Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. as presiding officer of the impeachment trial could further impair the Senate impeachment court.

"This government is paralyzed at least from the legislative point of view," resigned House Prosecutor Joker Arroyo yesterday said.

"When there is a paralysis in government, then some kind of a

CONSTITUTIONAL/ A14

EDSA SHRINE
RESIGN ALL!

MIKE ALQUINTO

PEOPLE power in the making where it first began at Edsa 14 years ago. Menacing tanks were parked where the Edsa Shrine now stands with Our Lady of Peace towering over the historic site.

'Stay on Edsa until evil is conquered by good'

BY NORMAN BORDADORA, ANDREA TRINIDAD-ECHAVEZ AND CHRISTINE HERRERA

PROTESTERS continued to throng the Edsa Shrine yesterday, with Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin exhorting them to stay "until evil is conquered by good."

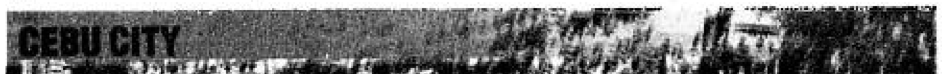
Former President Corazon Aquino, widow of the man whose assassination triggered the public outrage that culminated in the 1986 "People Power" revolt, called for bigger numbers, saying: "Our prayer is that there will be more people who will gather at Edsa in the coming days."

Speaking before the crowd clustered on the three levels and both lanes of the historic highway fronting the shrine, Sin said the millions of people who valued the truth were more than sufficient to stand up to "only one immoral President and 11 shameless senators."

"Stay here until evil is conquered by good. Stay here until corruption is overcome by integrity. Stay here and pray. Stay here and keep watch," he said in a homily that was interrupted several times by applause and by slogans demanding President Estrada's resignation.

The mostly black-clad protesters, made up of both organized groups and those who joined "spontaneously," estimated their number as bigger than the crowd that converged on the shrine for a prayer rally last Nov. 4. By 8:30 p.m. they were estimated to number at least 200,000, with the arrival of delegations from Central Luzon and

STAY/ A14



FEASTING on protest outside the Fuente Osmeña rotunda.

TONEE DESPOJO

Erap holds flurry of emergency meetings

BY DONNA S. CUETO AND ARMAND N. NOCUM

WHILE Malacañang tried yesterday to project an image that it was not "unduly concerned" over the country's full-blown political crisis, a flurry of emergency meetings Tuesday night and all day yesterday suggested a state of panic.

Apart from issuing a couple of brief statements yesterday, the President himself avoided journalists and public functions, as emotions flared high in the streets over the perception that he would likely

ERAP/ A4

BAGUIO CITY
PATALSIKIN SI ESTRADA! NGAYON NA!
ESTRADA RESIGN MOVEMENT CORDILLERA

THE TOURISTS were sidelined on Session Road by flag-waving demonstrators chanting the now familiar refrain.

TOOTS SOBERANO

Wanted: 11 new House prosecutors

BY RAUL J. PALABRICA

(First of two parts)

WHEN the impeachment trial of President Estrada will resume depends on the House of Representatives. The court can reconvene tomorrow, next week or after the 2001 elections, as may be determined by the House.

The request of the 11-person prosecution panel to withdraw as prosecutors of the Articles of Impeachment still has to be acted upon by the House.

If the House approves the prosecution's request, it is obliged to select among its members a new set of prosecutors whose names should be immediately transmitted to the court.

Considering the adverse publicity that has arisen from the decision of the original prosecutors to withdraw from the case, looking for mem-

WANTED/ A14

DAY 24

ANALYSIS

DAVAO CITY
BEEP UP YOUR HORN ERAP RESIGN

THE GRAMMAR may be wrong but the sentiments are right up there.

GENE BOYD LUMAWAG

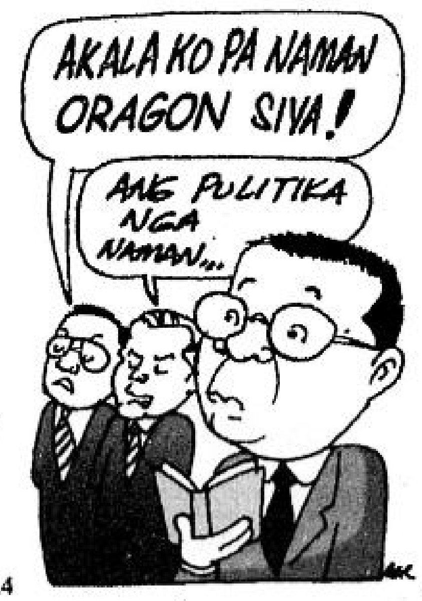
Friends, Bicolanos blast Tatad

BY JULIET JAVELLANA AND ROCKY NAZARENO

SENATE Majority Leader Francisco Tatad received a lot of flak for blocking the opening of a second set of sealed documents that allegedly would have proven that President Estrada amassed P3.3 billion in a secret bank account.

Two of his longtime friends said Tatad had failed to "rise to

FRIENDS/ A4


AKALA KO PA NAMAN ORAGON SIYA!
ANG PULITIKA NGA NAMAN...

SIGURADUHIN N'YO LANG NA MGA FARMERS ANG MAKIKINABANG!

Second FRONT PAGE

UST fires Fortun brothers as lawyers

By C. V. Esguerra

THE UNIVERSITY of Sto. Tomas has terminated its contract with the Fortun, Narvasa and Salazar law office, the firm that has provided counsel for President Estrada's defense, in protest against the "infamous" Senate decision to reject crucial evidence in the impeachment trial the other day.

Announcing the university's decision yesterday, Rector Fr. Tamerlane Lana, O.P. also urged former Chief Justice Andres Narvasa, Sen. Francisco Tatad, and other alumni to resign from a "government of prostitutes and liars."

Narvasa, who was the dean at one time of the UST Faculty of Civil Law, is "Of-Counsel," or adviser, of the Fortun, Narvasa and Salazar law office. The firm is headed by Sigfrid Fortun, a member of the Estrada defense panel, and Gregorio Narvasa, a son of the senior Narvasa. A brother of Sigfrid, Raymond Parsifal, is also in the Estrada defense panel.

11 plagues of Senate

"We condemn the Eleven Plagues of the Senate... The damage these partisan senator-judges have caused to the nation and to the truth is incalculable," said Lana.

"It is up to us, the people of God, to repair the damage," he said.

The UST decision to drop the Fortun et al. law office came after the Senate voted last Tuesday to prevent the opening of documents pertaining to the Jose Velarde account contained in a second envelope from Equitable-PCIBank. The vote triggered a public uproar.

As this developed, the Ateneo de Manila University has asked Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr., whose resignation will take effect after a new Senate chief is chosen, to make public the contents of the envelope.

The envelope, please

"We would appreciate an immediate response to this urgent request so we can take whatever further steps may be necessary to invoke our constitutional right to information and in pursuance of public interest," said Fr. Joaquin Bernas, S.J.

The Integrated Bar of the Philippines yesterday expressed its "regret" over Chief Justice Hilario Davide's "(allowing) a partisan senator, Francisco Tatad, to lord it over his colleagues and by sheer force of numbers suppress vital evidence."

Tatad had introduced a motion to put the decision to open the second envelope to a vote, preempting a ruling from the Davide, the presiding chair. The impeachment body, consisted of mostly pro-administration senators, voted 11 to 10 against opening the envelope.

Davide should have "initially ruled on the issue or to toss that to the body as his own judgment call, not because a highly partisan senator has shackled him into allowing a division of the house," said IBP president Arthur Lim.

Palace set to cash ₱50-B coco levy

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE COCONUT Trust Fund Committee is working to monetize the P50-billion coconut levy fund represented by 27 percent in San Miguel Corp. shares.

Executive Secretary Edgardo Angara said in a meeting with agrarian reform officials at Malacañang that he would exhaust all means to monetize the fund as soon as possible.

Angara, former agriculture secretary, stressed the need to fast-track the rehabilitation of the coconut industry whose 20 million coconut farmers have been severely affected by the drop in copra prices to a low of P2.50 per kilo.

"We'll see how we can speed up the monetization of the fund and help the farmers," Angara, chair of a committee in charge of overseeing the plan, said.

Finance Secretary Jose Pardo proposed three ways the SMC shares could be turned into cash:

- Sale of the shares to strategic investors or via a repurchase of SMC.
- Issuance of exchangeable bonds, which are classified into two types—the triple A credit enhance bond and the B bond.
- A combination of sale and issuance of exchangeable bonds.

Pardo said his proposals could raise as much as $40 million in advance earnings at day one for the trust fund.

Angara said the monetization time frame would be four to eight weeks.

Agrarian Secretary Horacio Morales, committee vice chair, said interim measures are needed to help the coconut farmer.

Angara gave the committee 10 days to study interim measures, including how to generate financing for the projects intended to revive the coconut industry.

The representative of the farmers, Romulo Tapayan, hailed the decision of the committee.

He said the monetization of the coconut levy fund was welcome news.

"There is really a need to hasten monetization of the fund because the situation in the fields is getting serious," Tapayan said.

"I and my fellow coconut farmers are getting restless because of difficulties in making both ends meet, what with our meager incomes. We need to sell seven kilos of copra to buy a kilo of rice," he said.

Classes in the streets for Catholic schools

By Blanche S. Rivera

CATHOLIC schools all over the country yesterday suspended classes in all levels to show their "extreme disappointment and outrage" at the turn of events at the impeachment trial of the President Tuesday.

Members of the influential Catholic Educators Association of the Philippines canceled classes and their students converged at rally sites, including the Edsa Shrine on Ortigas Avenue.

Mariano Piamonte, CEAP executive director, said about 80 percent of the group's 1,140 members nationwide responded positively to the CEAP's "encouragement" to have the students "educated in the parliament of the streets."

Piamonte appealed to the Department of Education, Culture and Sports not to meddle in the private schools' decision to join rallies against the President.

He said that as long as the private schools complied with DECS requirements, the department should not try to stop them from engaging in political activities.

"Schools should be defenders of the truth as much as advocates of integrity. We feel we are morally bound to make a statement because of what happened (at the Senate)," Piamonte told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

He said Catholic private schools were "not worried" about not meeting the required number of school days which is 205 because they have been adhering to their schedule for the year and could easily conduct make-up classes.

In an order issued last November, Education Secretary Andrew Gonzalez barred elementary and high school students from joining rallies, citing the threat to their safety. He recommended instead the discussion of political issues in the classrooms.

Cebu City-based Fr. Roderick Salazar, CEAP president, urged CEAP members to "suspend classes but have specific activities for the students and staff of our schools," even as he stressed the feelings of the pupils' parents should be considered in the matter.

The CEAP will also stand behind those who decide to suspend their classes the rest of the week as this was the prerogative of the school officials, Piamonte said.

"This is no longer the time of the ivory tower in education, when students merely memorized their lessons. This (going out) is part of the students' education as schools have become transformative agents of society," Piamonte said.

No need for trial –Gloria

VICE President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said there was no need to continue with the impeachment trial of the President after the Senate voted against divulging the contents of an envelope believed to contain more damaging evidence against him.

Macapagal told reporters that Tuesday night's Senate vote was a "suppression of the truth."

In a statement she read to reporters after attending a meeting of the Financial Executives Association of the Philippines at the Shangri-La Hotel in Makati City, Macapagal also called on President Estrada to "cease and desist from pitting Filipinos against brother Filipinos."

Macapagal was reacting to statements made the other day by Mr. Estrada in which he warned that those who would incite a revolution will be "put in their right place."

"Should violence erupt because of the President's militant stand, the bloodshed will be on his very doorstep," Macapagal said.

She also called on the police and the military to "respect the Constitution by allowing the people the freedom to express their indignation at this administration."

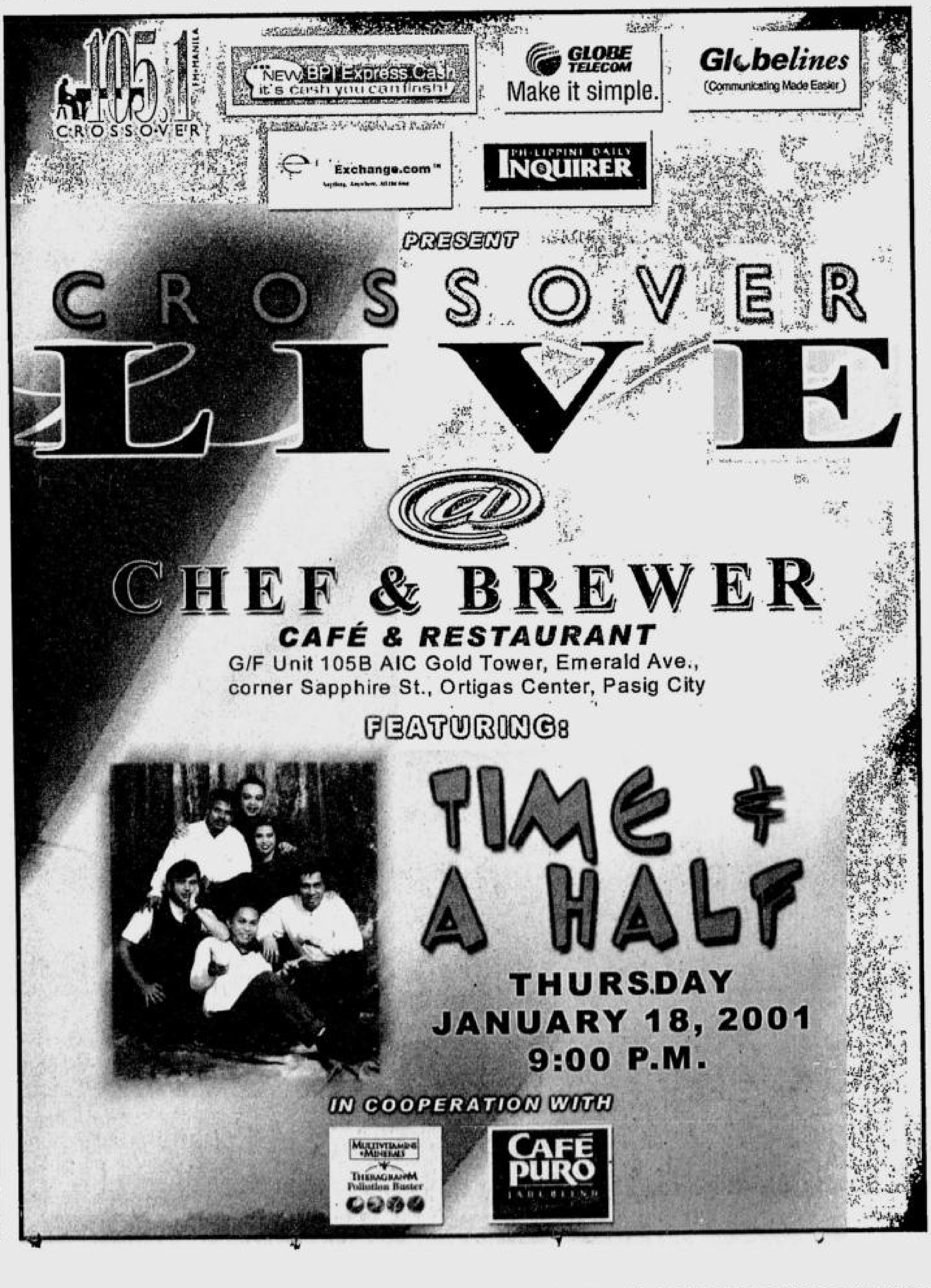
She also vowed to stand with the people "every step of the way in the quest for truth and justice," like the 10 senators who voted that the envelope be opened.

Christine Avendaño

Electromechanical Level Regulators (Float Switch)
NEW
Allows the start and stop automation of electrical equipment (pumps, electric control valves, alarms, etc.) when the set level is reached. For filling and emptying function of storage tank & cistern.
QUICKSTOP Italy
Non-corrosive Plastic Float Valve with Filter
TANGO ITALY
BRASS FLOAT VALVE FOR WATER TANK
Available in 1/2" to 4"
VIR Italy
Brass Gate Valve 125 PSI
1/2" = P 70.00
3/4" = P 98.00
1" = p 130.00
FF Italy
Brass Gate Valve 250 PSI
1/2" up to 4"
Check Valve & Foot Valve 1/2" up to 4"
Horizontal & Vertical
Brass Ball Valve 1/2" up to 4"
Brass Y-Strainer with stainless steel filter
jimten Spain
PVC BUTTERFLY VALVE CHEAPER THAN BRASS
PP Compression Fittings for PE Pipe
PVC Demountable Ball Valve
EXTENDIBLE TO FIT ANY THICKNESS OF FLOOR SLAB.
FLOOR TRAP 4" x 4" ODOR FREE
FLOOR TRAP W/ WATER-PROOFING FLANGE ODOR FREE
ROOF DRAIN W/ WATER-PROOFING FLANGE ODOR FREE
DISTINCT FEATURE OF JIMTEN'S FLOOR TRAP
Modern and technically improved w/ built-in drain trap or water seal cap to prevent odor & insects coming into the room through the drain pipes. No more P-trap needed.
Conventional Type of Floor Drain. A P-trap has to be installed below the floor drain to prevent odour.
Old System
EURO PLAST Italy
HEAVY DUTY PVC DRAIN COVERS
✓ Unbreakable
✓ No Rust
✓ Chemical & Acid Proof
✓ Easy to install & very Modular
Used In:
* Driveways
* Basements
* Terraces
* Outdoor
* Drainage
* Gardens
* Swimming Pools
* Chemical Factories
* Food Processing
UNI
PVC DRAIN GRILLS AND STEEL FRAMES FOR FLOOR AND SWIMMING POOLS
TF Water Closet Tank Fittings
Rubber flapper is protected with a plastic basket to avoid deformation before installation.
P 185.00/Set
Toilet Seat Cover
Regular Bowl P 120.00
Elongated Bowl P 350.00
Mini Ball Valve
Angle Valve
Bib Tap W/ Hose Connector
Ball Cock & Ball Valve For LPG
Heavy Duty Stainless Steel Corrugated Flexible Tube for Water Heaters & Faucets.
Stainless Steel Wire Braided Flexible Hose w/ EPDM Lining
PVC NON-RETURN VALVE ITALY
GREASE TRAP
Can effectively separate oil / grease from drainage water from kitchens to avoid clogging of drain pipes.
GREASE TRAP
FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL USE.
Drain Pipe End Connector with Flap Cover
Eliminates the possibility of rats and cockroaches entering your homes through drain pipes.
Hardware Dealer Inquiries Are Welcome
Sole Agent:
DEXTERTON INDUSTRIAL CORP.
157 Sgt. E. Rivera St. (Near Damar Village) Quezon City
Tel.: 323-1111 ; 361-6006 ; 362-0288 Fax No.362-0524
E-mail : dic@tri-isys.com

1 YEAR WARRANTY
Order on-line!
www.officeclub.com.ph
Showroom at: #344 Nueva st., Binondo, Manila
Hundreds of office products and supplies on our website. Those without internet please call : 244-7211.
SANYO SFX P1000 PLAIN PAPER FACSIMILE P 8,950.00
SANYO SFX P108 THERMAL FACSIMILE P 5,695.00
OFFICE CLUB.com
The New Way to e-Commerce.

Phil. Excl. Dist. FOX EXPORT IMPORT
WHIRLPOOLS and SPAS made in U.S.A. UL Listed
The JACUZZI Logo exemplifies... QUALITY, PERFORMANCE and LUXURY. The mark JACUZZI and Jacuzzi Oval are registered trademarks of JACUZZI INC.
More than SIXTY (60) MODELS made in USA
Available at the following outlets:
Manila: Pow-ERS Elect., Tel.: 363-0536 (trunkline), Fax: 362-4687; Pointer Ent., Tel.: 527-8341 to 45, Fax: 527-2160
Cag. De Oro: Denki Electric, Tel.: 728-768/728868, Fax: 723-507
Cebu: Fox Export Import, Tel.: 345-9777 / 345-3929, Fax: 346-7905; Signal Trading, Tel.: 346-3611 to 13, Fax: 346-3614


105.1 CROSSOVER
NEW BPI Express Cash it's cash you can finish!
GLOBE TELECOM Make it simple.
Globelines (Communicating Made Easier)
Exchange.com
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
PRESENT
CROSSOVER LIVE @ CHEF & BREWER
CAFÉ & RESTAURANT
G/F Unit 105B AIC Gold Tower, Emerald Ave., corner Sapphire St., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
FEATURING:
TIME & A HALF
THURSDAY JANUARY 18, 2001 9:00 P.M.
IN COOPERATION WITH
THERAGRAN-M
CAFÉ PURO

Agri chief vows 'a million jobs'

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE GOVERNMENT has embarked on an ambitious rural job generation program that hopes to generate at least one million jobs by fully tapping one million hectares of idle farmlands to generate one million jobs, according to Agriculture Secretary Domingo Panganiban.

Dubbed as "One Million Jobs, One Million Hectare Program," Panganiban said this was one of the last major initiatives which former Agriculture Secretary Edgardo Angara, now executive secretary, initiated at the department to ease poverty and underdevelopment in the rural areas.

The program will spend at least P5.5 billion to help build the infrastructure for the job—generation and massive use of idle and barely—productive farmlands.

"We have yet to have a rural job—generation program of this scale and magnitude," said Panganiban in describing the significance of the said initiative.

Northern and Central Luzon, Western Visayas and the entire Mindanao region have been identified as the major production areas under the program.

Panganiban said that the idle and underutilized farmlands would initially be planted with hybrid corn, cassava and high-value commercial crops (HVCCs) by farmers and farm cooperatives in partnership with the private sector under terms mutually beneficial to the two parties.

The planting program will diversify and venture into other HVCCs after the initial run, he added.

Northwest explains cut in agents' fee

NORTHWEST Airlines has said the travel agents' 7-percent commission on retail sales in the Philippines starting this year is common in many countries all over the world. The American carrier made the statement in reaction to the protest of the travel agents over the cut in their commissions from 9 to 7 percent.

In a press statement, Northwest said a commission reduction was initiated in the Philippines in 1999 by another airline. Northwest said it matched the reduction in response to higher operating costs in the airline industry, such as the well publicized rise in fuel prices. The association of travel agents had staged a picket in front of the Northwest offices on Makati and Manila to dramatize their protest.

"Travel agents remain a valuable partner for Northwest in the Philippines," the carrier said. "Travel agents provide an important sales and distribution network and Northwest remains committed to their success."

Two Way Radio
New Arrival (Sealed)
Cobra USA
Calling driver
Group monitor
Car to car
Communication
PING-PONG TABLES
BILLIARD TABLES
Gocheco Lumber 255-0151
Lumber Dealer & Construction Supplier
1161 CM Recto Avenue, Binondo, Manila

FREE
E-COMMERCE SEMINAR
Learn & Earn from the Internet!

For more details contact:
Susan 5510948-49 Loc. 22

KITANO/K8 www.nibo88.com
SEIKO Made in Japan TIME RECORDER
• Heavy Duty
• 2 color printing
• Melody function
• Auto card feed
• W/ Security password
P7,300
TIME RECORDER
Heavy Duty CHECKWRITER
P2,998 LAMINATOR
HEAVY DUTY BINDING MACHINE 24 HOLES
HEAVY DUTY PUNCHER
PAPER SHREDDER P488
Makati Tel.: 8905310 • 8905320 • 8905327

CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL OFFERS
INDUSTRIAL HIGH PRESSURE CLEANERS.
HOT & COLD
Mitho Plus
Kosmic
Silver Jet
Surprise Gift Awaits You!
FROM THE NO. 1 IN HIGH PRESSURE WASHERS
Exclusively Distributed by:
CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL, INC
Major Credit Cards Accepted.
Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos
With AFTER SALES SERVICE
Main Office Kimika Bldg 1851 M Orosa St Malate Mla Telefax 5244380
Tel. Nos.: 5244472 • 5240529 Trunkline: 5245290
Quezon City Br 646 Quezon Ave Q C across Sto Domingo Church
Bet G Araneta Ave Tel. 7490581 • 7493709

MAMAMAYAN MUNA
HINDI MAMAYA NA!

Corporate Gifts
PERSONALIZED
LOGO
ACCEPT OUT METRO ORDERS
Wallclocks 14" P200/pc.
50 pcs minimum
ALARM Clock
☎ 8246656
8214102
P90 Only

Introducing
WRIST BP MONITOR
• Handy & Portable
• 100% Accurate
• Ideal for travel
• 2 pcs. "AAA" Batteries
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: fareastmedical.net
"TRAVEL MATE" WRIST BP
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A 635-04-36
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-75-40
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453-3326
CEBU 262-32-39
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 800-40-93
GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN Shoppesville 721-34-87

PABX Problem?
With EverTel 5-LINE PHONE, its no longer a problem Completely multi-functional just like real PABX plus call transfer function directly through INTERCOM
So why wait if you can get it cheaper than PABX?
5-Line Phone + Intercom
• 5 line phone
• Multi-function
• Call trasfer to intercom
• Redial
• Adjustable ring volume
• Flash
• Pause
• Transparent button
Call for FREE Demo
3-Line Phone
2-Line Phone
EverTel
EverTel Phils., Corp.
MANILA - 749-5464•749-5466
MAKATI - 813-2752•892-7509•892-7522
SHOWROOM - 732-9432 • 732-9433

PERSIAN CARPETS
TODAY AUCTION
Indus International, Inc. proudly presents you a golden opportunity to own genuine handmade carpets through open public bidding.
A brand new lot of superb quality Persian, Pakistan, Afghan and Kashmir silk and wool rugs in various sizes, designs and color combinations awaits you for pleasant fun. No reasonable offer will be refused.
Date : 18th of January, 2001 (Thursday)
Location : Manila Polo Club, Inc. (Turf Room)
17 McKinley Road, Forbes Park
Makati City
Viewing Time : 6:00 PM
Auction Time : 7:00 PM
Terms : Cash, Personal Check or Credit Card
INDUS International, Inc.
Tel. Nos. 723-9750, 633-1710 & 633-1711
Fax No. 633-1711

- An Invitation To A Pilgrimage To -
GUADALUPE
MEXICO
plus NAJU and STA. MARIA
15 Days
DEPARTURE DATE: April 24, 2001
Fr. ARNIE BOEHME, O.C.D.
Pilgrimage Chaplain
EXECUTIVE RESOURCES, INC.
INTERNATIONAL PILGRIMAGE COORDINATORS
Lower Lobby, Century Park Hotel, P. Ocampo Sr., Malate, Manila
Call Tess, Nora or Chichi • Tel. Nos. 5238581, 5214156
FAX 5260126 • E-mail: eri@worldtelphil.com
DOT-228-2000
IATA
PTAA

New Year Makeover
BUY ONE TAKE ONE
January 22 - 28, 2001 ONLY!
THIS NEW YEAR, MAKE A RESOLUTION TO GO BEYOND YOUR BASIC SKINCARE REGIMEN. GO FOR THE ULTIMATE SKIN IMPROVEMENT AT FACIAL CARE CENTRE WITH A BUY ONE TAKE ONE OFFER ON ADVANCED LASERTONE!
DON'T MISS THIS ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY TO REVERSE AGEING SIGNS AND HAVE BEAUTIFUL, YOUNGER-LOOKING SKIN THAT'S TRULY BEYOND COMPARE!
IT ONLY HAPPENS THIS JANUARY.
Call Facial Care Centre now to book your appointment.
*Offer is valid upon enrollment for Advanced Lasertone treatments only. Non-transferable and non-exchangeable for other treatments.
Facial care centre
Where Beautiful Skin Happens
MAKATI 817-3323 812-6080/81 Solid Mills Bldg., dela Rosa St.
NEW LOCATION ORTIGAS 687-2196 687-2197 631-3007 • 631-3045 Robinsons Equitable Tower, ADB Ave.
QUEZON CITY 372-6633 372-6634 410-3709 • 410-3710 Cedar Executive Bldg. Timog Avenue
SHAW 534-7701/02 717-0076 Sunshine Square Plaza
ALABANG 850-9055 842-1144 850-4577 • 560-0296 Doña Marta Bldg. Ayala-Alabang Rd.
BINONDO 242-2148 242-2185 Federal Tower Bldg. Dasmariñas St.
CEBU 233-7631 233-7633/35 Keppel Centre, Cebu City
ALL CENTERS ARE NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK.
Per DTI-NCR Permit #0002, Series of 2001
MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SAT. (8 AM - 5 PM) / SUN. (10 AM - 3 PM)
e-mail add.: fcc@i-manila.com.ph

FROM BATANES TO ZAMBOANGA

'Shameless' vote disgusts folks

BY THE PDI BUREAUS

RAGE at the suppression of evidence that could reveal the extent of President Estrada's alleged thievery swept key cities and towns outside Metro Manila starting early yesterday.

From as far north as Batanes to as far south as Zamboanga, thousands rushed out of their homes shortly before midnight Tuesday to make noise and join rallies demanding the President's immediate resignation.

The protest actions were spontaneous and took various forms.

In Basco, Batanes, most of the Ivatan residents assailed the Senate impeachment court's vote not to open a second envelope containing alleged evidence of Mr. Estrada's unexplained wealth.

They agreed with the opinion of resigned Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. that the contents should have been disclosed to settle the question of their relevance to the impeachment charges.

In Isabela, Bishop Sergio Utleg of the Diocese of Ilagan said the people "would not let the cover-up of truth to pass without any action."

In Tuguegarao City, marchers carried placards denouncing Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, a native of Cagayan. "Cagayanos are ashamed of Enrile" read the placards.

Rallies and noise barrages were also held in Nueva Vizcaya, Baguio City, Dagupan City and elsewhere in Northern Luzon.

UP walkout

About 600 students and teachers of the University of the Philippines College Baguio, led by Dean Priscilla Macansantos, walked out of their classes and joined a rally on Session Road.

Protesters wore black shirts, a sign of mourning and, some said, of anger.

In Dagupan, Delmer Cruz, secretary general of the Enough of Erap Movement, urged the people to light candles in front of their houses or work places.

Mayor Alipio Fernandez Jr., League of Cities of the Philippines president, appealed to Dagupeños to join an indignation rally in the city after he described the impeachment proceedings Tuesday night as a "failure."

Anti-Estrada groups in Pangasinan welcomed the statement of the mayor who earlier reiterated his support to the President.

In La Union, Bishop Antonio Tobias of the Diocese of San Fernando urged the faithful to join the mass actions at the Edsa Shrine in Manila in preparation for People Power II.

"The dark days are upon us," said Gov. Justo Orros Jr., an in-law of Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson, as he asked the people to pray for peaceful protests.

Police checkpoints

Roman Polintan of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) in Central Luzon said policemen were sent to the North Luzon Expressway in Pampanga to stop protesters bound for Edsa.

He said the policemen also barred people led by Mayor Katherine Gordon from leaving Olongapo City.

Chief Supt. Roberto Calinisan, Central Luzon police director, confirmed that he ordered police provincial directors on Wednesday noon to set up 24-hour "observation posts" along the North Luzon Expressway, MacArthur Highway and exit routes in the region.

Vehicles would be inspected at random for firearms and explosives, Calinisan said.

The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Northern Luzon began mobilizing businessmen and workers for the Edsa rallies, according to Renato Romero, chapter president.

"The biggest (crowd) that we can muster, we would bring to Edsa," he said.

Free rides

Free bus rides will be given to Pampanga protesters who would join "People Power II" by businessmen and Gov. Manuel Lapid.

In Bulacan, protesters assembled at various points and joined demonstrators on Edsa and the Senate grounds.

Fr. Anacleto Ignacio, Guiguinto parish priest and chair of the Justice and Peace Desk of the Malolos Diocese, said Bulacan Gov. Josefina de la Cruz shouldered the transportation expenses of the marchers.

In Mindoro, protesters are planning a series of mass actions to support the call for people power.

"We do not recognize him (Estrada) as our President anymore," said Fr. Jerry Bitoon from San Pablo City.

Protesters, including deans of various colleges of UP College Los Baños walked out of their classrooms.

Noise campaigns were held in Cavite, while religious services were held in Calapan City.

School officials in Calamba, Laguna, said they would send delegations to Edsa.

Bicol

In Naga City, militants led by former Mayor Jesse M. Robredo, a Ramon Magsaysay awardee, held a rally in support of calls for another people power to topple Mr. Estrada.

The Ateneo de Naga and the University of Nueva Caceres, two large schools in the city, suspended classes as students joined the rally.

Tess Pielago, chair of the Bicol Women for the Advancement of Nationalism (Bicolana), said the people had no other option left but to take to the streets.

She said the impeachment trial was just a waste of time.

"There is no more decency on the part of the senators who voted no," Gariguez said. "I cried. So did the other priests and seminarians watching the proceedings on TV. *Garapal na garapal talaga* (They're really callous)."

Catholic schools in Albay suspended classes and vowed to send as many as 10,000 demonstrators to Edsa.

Instead of holding classes, the schools held forums on the impeachment trial.

Visayas

The noise was deafening in several cities in the Visayas, and the loudest protests came from Church leaders.

At least 26,000 people held rallies in Iloilo City, 10,000 in Bacolod City, and 8,000 in Cebu City.

"The most logical way to peace is for the President to resign," said Antique Bishop Raul Quimbo Martirez.

The bishop said he stopped watching the televised trial for fear that his blood pressure will shoot up. But, he said, he got updates from his staff.

Msgr. Cesar Petilla, spokesperson for the Archdiocese of Palo, said, "I hope and pray that the people can still find solace in our constitutional process even if the very people who are tasked to protect this process are not capable of delivering justice."

The 11 senators who voted to keep the second envelope sealed, said Jaro Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, "were more beholden to the President, whose corruption they appear to protect, than to the Filipino people who voted them into office."

"It is sad to realize that the 11 senators are not serving the interest of the people but only the interest of President Estrada," said Fr. Gamaliel Tulabing, spokesperson of the Dumaguete Diocese.

Kabankalan Bishop Vicente Navarra, who is also papal administrator of the Bacolod Diocese, called on Filipinos "of noble spirit to rally behind the opposition and move for the immediate resignation of President Estrada."

Fortich

Bishop Emeritus Antonio Fortich said the only option left was to force Mr. Estrada out.

"The envelope should be opened so the people will know the truth. What is inside the envelope that they are afraid to open it. Does it contain (a) bomb that will kill all the lies going on in that court?" he asked.

About 2,000 Cebuanos trooped to the Fuente Osmeña Rotunda in Cebu City to mount a noise campaign from 1 p.m. to 3 a.m. The afternoon rally was joined by 8,000 people, many of them wearing black shirts.

Cebu exporter Joyce Natalie Yang yesterday resigned as the lone Visayas private sector representative to the Small and Medium Enterprise Development Council in protest of the Senate vote.

Invitations to join the noise campaigns in Cebu and Bacolod spread through text messages.

"It is very clear that the Senate tribunal voted along partisan lines and against justice," said Andres Hagad of the No Erap Movement.

In Bacolod, the rally began at the city plaza with about 1,000 militants present, but the number swelled to about 10,000 in the afternoon.

In Iloilo City, about 8,000 people ignored an afternoon drizzle to join an indignation rally dubbed "Hudasan sa Senado (Treachery at the Senate)."

Mayor Felipe Antonio Remollo of Dumaguete City said the street protests must continue until the President is ousted. To proceed with the trial would be an exercise in futility, he said.

"I don't know what our people will do next," said Iloilo Gov. Arthur Defensor, a cousin of Sen. Miriam Defensor Santiago, who was one of those who voted to keep the second envelope sealed.

Mindanao

Chants of "Erap Guilty!" and "Erap Resign!" reverberated in the streets of Davao City.

Students and teachers left their classrooms to take part in the rallies. "We did not walk out of our classrooms. We just transferred the venue of our classrooms to the streets," said Lourdesita Sobrevega-Chan, professor of political science at the Ateneo de Davao.

Joji Ilagan Bian, chair of the Mindanao Business Council, said businessmen in Mindanao could no longer afford to be complacent "because the reaction of the local and foreign market is immediate."

ERAP
RESIGN

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY: A canvas of signatures. FROILAN GALLARDO

"Those who refuse to take a stand now are like zombies," said Bian.

Dr. Romeo Raul Valles, chair of RAGE (Rx Against Rage), said that "if we are able to oust the dictator Marcos who was much more intelligent than Estrada, had more clout with the military and imposed martial law for 14 years, the Filipino people could very well do it again with Estrada."

A motorcade was held around the city.

Davao City Mayor Benjamin de Guzman said Mr. Estrada should now ask his lawyers to approve the opening of the envelope.

"Transparency is the best cure for what is happening in our country today," he said.

In Cagayan de Oro City, at least 4,000 rallied outside the City Hall, most of them wearing black.

Private sector representatives in the government's Regional Development Body in Northern Mindanao resigned yesterday as an expression of outrage.

Jesus Paras, co-chair of the RDC, and Charlito Manlupig, Mariz Agbon, Sylvia Okinlay-Paraguya also announced their resignations.

People in Kidapawan City were glued to their radio and TV sets to keep watch the trial. "People talk a lot about it (the trial)," said Efren Pinol, North Cotabato provincial administrator.

Rallies were also held in General Santos City.

Elena Bianan, chair of the Gabriela women's group in General Santos, said the senators had "blind, if not canine, loyalty to the President."

It was like a Sunday at the St. Michael's Cathedral in Iligan City as at least a thousand people attended Mass.

"The country's future is very bleak," said Bishop Emilio Bataclan, who celebrated the Mass.

Rallies were also staged in Ozamiz City, Zamboanga City and other areas in Mindanao.

"The Senate's vote was a vote for a government of corruption, inequality, among others," said Fr. Jose Maghinay of the Ozamiz Archdiocese. ***Juliet Cataluña, Villamor Visaya Jr., Desiree Caluza, Avigail Olarte, Jayvee Cortez, Vincent Cabreza, Yolanda Fuertes, Peter La. Julian, Gia Damaso-Dumo, Estanislao Caldez and Ben Moses Ebreo, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau; Tonette Orejas, Jun Malig and Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk; Romulo O. Ponte, Job Belen, Dennis Maliwanag, Rolly Embile, Delfin T. Mallari Jr., Juan Escandor Jr. and Joel Jabal, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau; Carla P. Gomez, Jani Arnaiz, Raj Padilla, Nagiel Bañacia, Cynthia A. Borgueta, Joey A. Gabieta, Hazel P. Villa, Vicente S. Labro, Romy A. Amarado, Alex V. Pal and Connie E. Fernandez, PDI Visayas Bureau; and Amy B. Cabusao, Ayan C. Mellejor, Joselle Badilla, Carolyn O. Arguillas, Jowel F. Canuday, Merpu Roa, Julie Alipala-Inot, Ellen P. Red, Lina Sagaral Reyes, Charlie C. Señase, Aquiles Z. Zonio, Bobby Timonera, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Friends, Bicolanos blast Tatad

(From page A1)

the moral high ground" they had expected him to take and his fellow Bicolanos disowned their native son.

Then, there was the Senate secretary who said the senator's deed Tuesday night reminded him of the fact that it was also Tatad who announced the proclamation of martial law in 1972.

'House basher'

He was also dubbed a "House basher" by House prosecutor Makati Rep. Joker Arroyo for belittling the Articles of Impeachment prepared by the House of Representatives.

And to top it off, Tatad failed to go home Tuesday night because cars had blocked the road in front of his La Vista, Quezon City, residence.

"I had to sleep elsewhere. My children were all terrified, these were my two teenage daughters. My wife was very nervous and they just did not know what to do. The anti-Erap forces have actually decided to target innocent families," Tatad complained yesterday.

Disappointed friends

For moving for an open voting on whether the sealed documents should be opened, Tatad was chastised by his friends, former Central Bank Governor Jose Cuisia Jr. and former Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao. The three belong to the Opus Dei.

In an open letter to the senator-judge, Cuisia and Estanislao told Tatad that the issue at hand was "not just a matter of politics, but of morals as well."

They said they were "appalled" and "disheartened" because Tatad had "chosen to be on the side of those who would not want to look at available evidence."

"Our disillusionment stems from your having been presented with a great opportunity to make a difference and your refusing to take it," Cuisia and Estanislao said.

They said there had been previous questions about how Tatad could reconcile his statement, made in 1998, about President Estrada's "moral incapacity" with his present position in the impeachment trial.

Cuisia and Estanislao said they had attributed this to Tatad's "political prerogatives."

"But after the developments last (Tuesday), we feel it our duty now to state publicly that we too have our political freedom to express our views, and they happen to be the opposite of what we had hoped out of you," they said.

'Disowned'

In Bicol, cell phone calls and text messages and even people in the streets chided Tatad and fellow Bicolano Sen. Gregorio Honasan for openly manifesting their defense of the President.

"Honasan and Tatad are a disgrace to us Bicolanos, please disown them. Pass it to many fellow Bicolanos as you can," the text messages said.

"What kind of people are they, if they are really fighting for everybody's welfare and for the nation as well, why are they like that?" said Bicolanos who were interviewed by the INQUIRER.

"*Nakakahiya*(Shameful)!" exclaimed urban poor leader Damasa Abarquez.

Déjà vu

For Senate Secretary Lutgardo Barbo, who is also the clerk of court of the impeachment court, Tatad's move that led to the open voting gave him a sense of déjà vu. It reminded him that it was Tatad who announced on television in 1972 the declaration of martial law.

"When I saw him reading a book on the Constitution, I recalled the picture of him reading Presidential Decree 1081 as spokesman of the martial law regime," Barbo said.

Tatad was quick to react to Barbo's statement.

"What's the relationship? Martial law proclamation was issued pursuant to the Constitution. Those among you who are too young to have been there at that time must be told that during those times, the communist menace was real," Tatad justified.

Tatad stood pat on his decision not to have the second set of documents opened and to have the senator-judges, not Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., decide on it.

"We argued on the basis of law, not on the basis of what would appeal to the mob. And if there was any error in our argument, it has to be shown by reason not by these outward manifestations," he said.

"I acted on the basis of my reading of the law of the Constitution. If I am proved in error, then history will judge me harshly. But I do not pander to the mob at no time in my public life," Tatad said.

Heated words

Tatad had exchanged heated words with House prosecutor Joker Arroyo on Tuesday night with Tatad chiding the impeachment prosecutors about a "sloppily constructed complaint" and Arroyo commenting on the senator-judge's lack of legal know-how.

"I take offense, Mr. Senator!" Arroyo blurted out after Tatad told him during deliberations that there was "nothing in (the impeachment rules) requiring the House to submit a sloppily constructed complaint."

Tatad asked if Arroyo believed that the impeachment rules, which provided that the rules of evidence and procedure shall be liberally construed, also means that the charges are likewise to be liberally construed.

"Well that is what the Senate rules say," Arroyo answered.

In a raised voice, a seemingly irked Tatad shot back: "No, evidence and procedure, yes. Charges? That's the question."

Arroyo maintained that the evidence in question, the second sealed envelope, was evidence and that treatment as to its admissibility and materiality must be liberally construed.

Non-lawyer

Tatad pushed the question and asked Arroyo: "But that the charges are to remain frozen and firm. Or are they to be a work-in-progress that must grow from time to time?"

"I'd like to disagree that this is a work-in-progress. We are not in waiting while we are here. I cannot argue on a legal point with a non-lawyer," Arroyo said sarcastically.

Tatad did not take the comment lightly and moved that the remarks be stricken off the record.

Just as Tatad was wrapping up his turn at questioning the prosecution, tension swelled anew when Arroyo underscored that the President was impeached by the House for bribery, graft and corrupt practices act, betrayal of public trust and culpable violation of the Constitution.

It was the acknowledged "referee" of the impeachment court, Davide, who may have unwittingly lit the fuse in the Arroyo-Tatad word war.

"What are the ultimate facts?" Davide asked.

"Ultimate facts, as stated. I just mentioned the headings," Arroyo answered.

Tatad quickly retorted: "The ultimate facts as stated in the articles, not as stated in the press."

Arroyo shot back and accused Tatad of insinuating that he has been leaking evidence and information to media.

"I again take offense on that," Arroyo said.

Then he stressed that he was not having the remark stricken off the record.

"Never mind, let it stay. Let that stay on the record because that reflects on the judge," he told the court.

Comic ending

And who would rise to provide a comic ending to what had otherwise been a tense debate?

Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr., who told Arroyo: "Mr. Prosecutor, may I remind you that you were my lawyer during the martial law years and that caused me to go to jail as a result of your passionate appeals."

"Under the conditions then at that time," Arroyo answered with a smile.

Yesterday, Arroyo said what made him lose his cool was when Tatad blamed the House for the perceived flaws in the Articles of Impeachment prepared by the lower chamber.

"When Tatad started to berate the House, it was then that I lost my cool. Nobody tells the House what to do. You should accept the articles for what they are," Arroyo said.

Tatad, whom Arroyo called "the House basher," prevented Davide from first making a ruling on the issue of whether the sealed envelope should be opened.

"The rule was that that the Chief Justice should first make a ruling on the relevancy and admissibility (of the evidence being offered). In plain words he has the first crack," Arroyo said.

"But then, if there's a motion by a member that says it should be voted upon by the Senate, then procedurally Tatad was correct," he conceded. ***With reports from Volt Contreras in Manila and Job Belen, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Erap holds flurry of emergency meetings

(From page A1)

get off scot-free in his impeachment trial.

Mr. Estrada called an emergency meeting at the Palace Tuesday night after Aquilino Pimentel Jr.'s resignation as Senate President and the walkout of private prosecutors.

Yesterday, the Palace appealed to Pimentel to reconsider his decision since he lent "credibility" to the trial, the top presidential aide said, while the President's spokesperson accused House prosecutors of pulling off "the great escape."

The Tuesday night meeting lasted until around 2 a.m. Those who attended were Executive Secretary Edgardo Angara, the President's lawyers, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Angelo Reyes and Philippine National Police chief Panfilo Lacson.

In a statement released last night after a meeting of the Economic Coordinating Council, Mr. Estrada assured business leaders that "the government is in complete control of the security situation in the country."

Angara, for his part, said that the Palace would make sure that the impeachment process would be concluded "represent stability" and "communicate calmness" in volatile times.

But calmness did not seem to be the order of the day. There was an emergency Cabinet meeting at noon, which also served as a loyalty check. Earlier, there was a call for all 17 Metro Manila mayors to come to the Palace for instructions on how to address civil unrest.

Only around 10 mayors came, including Lito Atienza of Manila, Ismael Mathay Jr. of Quezon City, Vicente Eusebio of Pasig, Bayani Fernando of Marikina, and Peewee Trinidad of Pasay.

Asked about the widespread demonstrations across the country, Angara said: "Of course, we're concerned. But we're not unduly concerned that this will get out of control. The opposition leaders are highly responsible people and they will not allow the demonstrations to get out of control and cause injury to person and property," Angara said.

"We are sure that this episode will also pass. This will not be a permanent feature of our life," he said. "We assure our people that we will do everything. We need not fear the horror scenario described by critics and opponents of the administration."

Maximum tolerance

The mayors were instructed to follow a maximum-tolerance policy with protestors, while conducting an information campaign in their cities to dissuade people from joining street protests.

Angara said that the Estrada administration would "tolerate to the maximum the expression of dissent short of seditious acts and acts of violence."

But "we will draw the line between right and responsibility. We expect that people who oppose the President and those who may not agree with the decision of the Senate will henceforth keep that in mind," he warned.

He said the Palace was also making "allowances" for allegedly seditious statements uttered Tuesday night by the members of the opposition.

"Maybe last night's statements could be statements (made) because of the passion of the hour. We will give that kind of allowance to them. Henceforth, we hope that we can all help together calm the fears of our people," he said.

Appeal to Nene

Angara said that there was a caucus of senators that would try to convince Pimentel to reconsider his resignation.

"What we are making is . . .an appeal for Senator Pimentel that he continue to remain as Senate President because he is the symbol of the impeachment court," Angara said.

He also assured reporters that the House prosecution panel, which resigned from prosecuting the impeachment case yesterday, would be "reconstituted."

Angara said even President Estrada felt quite sad about the "regrettable" decisions of Pimentel and the House prosecutors, but stressed that "we hope overall that the impeachment process will continue despite these incidents."

Asked if the new prosecution panel would be a virtual "defense team," Angara said only, "I'm sure the House will rise to the occasion."

Erap statement

A Palace source said that the President's one-page statement was prepared at midnight Tuesday, but was released only at dawn because Mr. Estrada included a handwritten note denying he owned the controversial "Jose Velarde" accounts.

The President expressed gratitude over the Senate's vote to keep prosecutors away from what is supposedly the most damaging evidence yet that he has grown rich off corruption, but appealed for calm amid worries of possible violence.

"I thank the good Lord for giving us this initial favorable vote. This is the first major vote in the many more major votes to be cast in the impeachment trial," he said in the statement, in which he prayed for strength and guidance.

He admitted that for him and the Filipino people, the "trial has been a very difficult and trying experience."

"Just like in any important trial as shown in the past weeks—you win some, you lose some," he said. "But I am praying that in the end, our lawyers will be able to get justice for us."

He said he was praying that, whatever the outcome of the impeachment trial, "our constitutional system and democratic institutions remain stronger and more vibrant than ever."

"Let us pray that we may be spared further violence, injuries and death that have stricken our country in recent times," he said, referring to a series of bomb blasts in Metro Manila that killed over 20 people three weeks ago.

'Confidence problem'

Angara and Finance Secretary Jose Pardo admitted "there is a confidence problem," but Angara argued that Mr. Estrada's resignation was not the answer to the country's problems.

Journalists were not allowed to cover the ECC and the Cabinet meetings, which the President presided over.

"I think the President will come out and make a public statement. He's just discussing the timing with the lawyers because as you know, it's very difficult to make public statements while you are under indictment," Angara said.

Mr. Estrada did pose with officials he met earlier in the day, but left the conference room before newsmen were sent in.

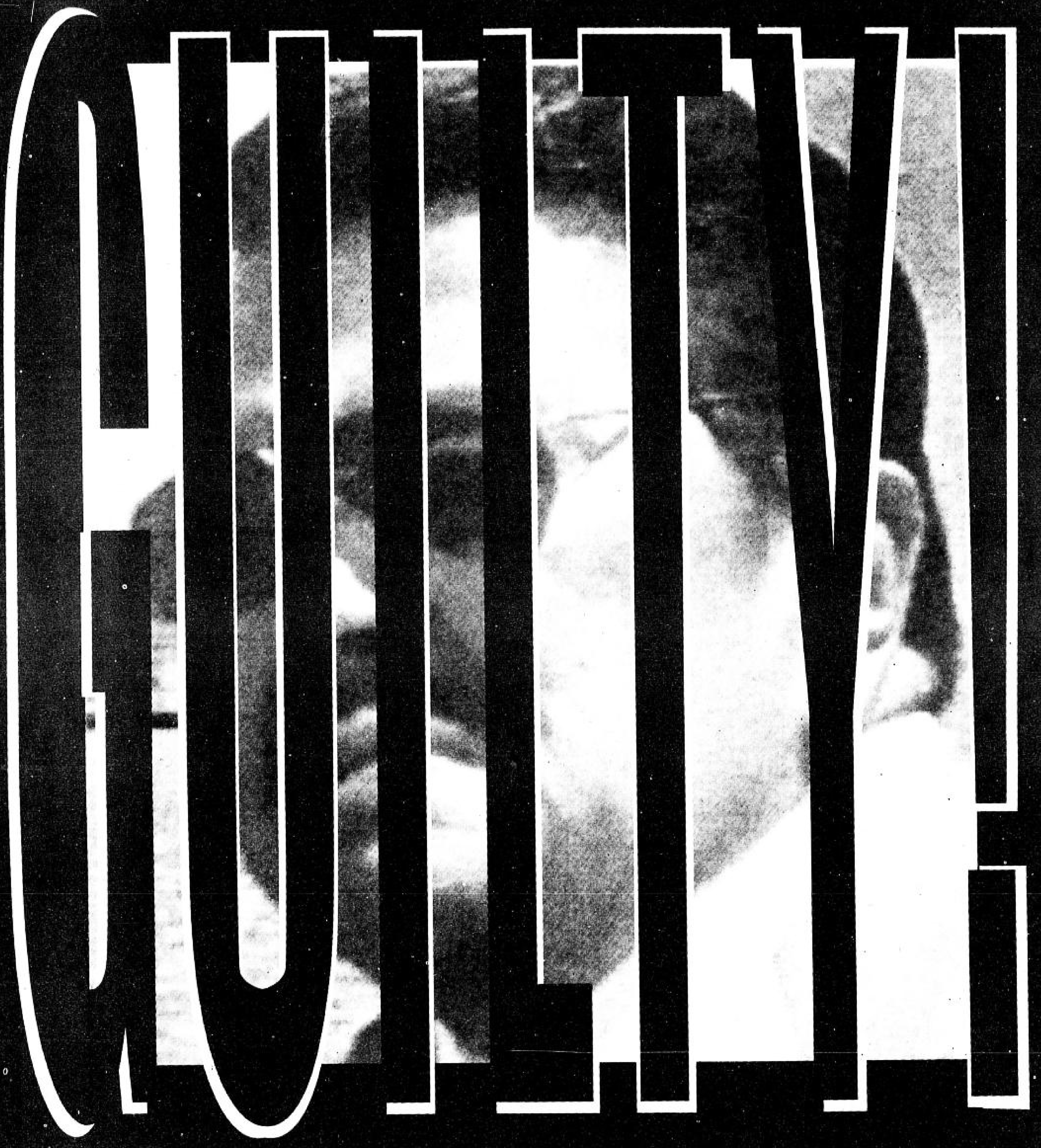
For his part, presidential impeachment spokesperson Ernesto Maceda said the resignation of the House prosecutors and subsequent calls for "people power" indicated a "grand conspiracy" by opposition forces.

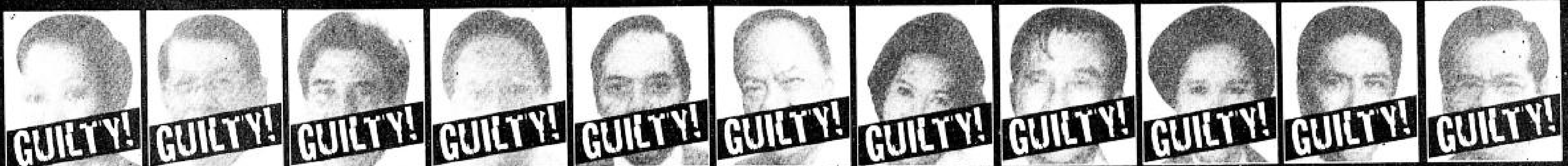
He said an alliance between Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, former Presidents Corazon Aquino and Fidel Ramos, Jaime Cardinal Sin, businessmen and the Left had an "evil design to sow political and economic chaos."

In a statement, Maceda said that by walking out, prosecutors merely staged a "great escape," given what he called their failure to produce any evidence of wrongdoing on the President's part.

He said opposition members had only shown themselves to be "bad sports" by throwing "tantrums." ***With a report from AP***

HATOL NG BAYAN:




GUILTY!
GUILTY!
GUILTY!
GUILTY!
GUILTY!
GUILTY!
GUILTY!
GUILTY!
GUILTY!
GUILTY!
GUILTY!

Ang *GUARDIA SENADO* ay hindi na itutuloy dahil hindi na kayang ma-konsiyensiya ang 11 Senador na nagbenta sa bayan. Hindi nakinig sa boses ng mga naglagay sa kanila sa Senado. Sinira ang pagtitiwala sa Konstitusyon.

Sa mga Pilipino na naghihintay ng ebidensiya bago magpasiya--- walang kaduda-duda ---
GUILTY si *ERAP* sa *PANDARAMBONG* sa *NAGHIHIKAHOS* na ekonomiya!
GUILTY ang 11 *SENADOR* na kasabwat ng isang *MAGNANAKAW*.
GUILTY ang mga *LINTA* na patuloy sa *PAGSIPSIP* sa *MANDURUGAS*.
GUILTY ang mga ginagalang na *KALIHIM* ng Gabinete na *NAGPAPAHIRAM* ng kredibilidad sa pagsulong ng *HUWAD NA LIDERATO*.

Sa aming mga puso, bumaba na ang hatol. *GUILTY*!

Sumali sa mga rally araw-araw hanggang bumaba si Erap. I-boycott ang mga produkto ng mga crony companies.

Ilipat Ang Paghuhusga Sa TaongBayan!

Consumers & Communicators for Good Governance • KOMPIL II

ADVT.

OPINION

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inquirer.net

EUGENIA D. APOSTOL
Founding Chairman

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Vol. 16 No. 41
ISSN 0116-2642

ISAGANI YAMBOT
Publisher
LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Editor in Chief
JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Managing Editor
ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
Associate Editor
ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.
News Editor
NILO B. PAUROM
Assistant News Editor
PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
National Editor
GERRY LIRIO
City Editor
JORGE V. ARUTA
Opinion Editor
ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
Senior Deskperson
AMANDO DORONILA
Editorial Consultant

MARIXI R. PRIETO
Board Chairman
ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
President
RENATO R. REINOSO
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing
DAVID O. VALDES
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services
FELIPE R. OLARTE
VP for Advertising
GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL
AVP for Circulation

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at **Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati • P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office, 1263 Makati City, Philippines** • Our new telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments; Editorial Fax 897-4793, 897-4794; Advertising 897-4807; Circulation 527-33-42, 527-33-48, 528-01-83, 528-01-86 and 528-02-13, Fax: 528-02-34.

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.

End of a charade

EDITORIAL

THE 11-10 vote of the impeachment tribunal on Tuesday rejecting the opening of the second envelope containing evidence on the alleged P3.3-billion secret bank account said to be President Estrada's, signals the collapse of the impeachment process. It brought to an early end the 24-day trial without resolving the issue of whether the President is guilty or innocent of the charges enumerated in the Articles of Impeachment.

Sen. Rene Cayetano correctly reflected the public indignation over the decision when he said it was a "day of infamy." Prosecutor, Rep. Joker Arroyo, said it was a "shameless acquittal" of the President.

While the pro-Estrada senators won a legal victory barring disclosure of the secret accounts on the grounds of legal technicality—i.e., the prosecution failed to establish the relevance of the documents to the charges of graft and corruption—the vote has plunged the country into a constitutional crisis through a failure of the impeachment trial.

The vote has triggered a chain of events that has shattered the credibility and legitimacy of the impeachment process. It has provoked the resignation from the Senate presidency of Sen. Aquilino Pimentel, who voted with the minority to open the envelope. It has sparked the withdrawal from the trial of all the 11 members of the panel of prosecutors from the House of Representatives, stopping the trial. It has shifted the focus of the trial from the issue of whether or not the President is guilty of the impeachment charges to the much more readily understood issue of suppression of vital evidence. With the vote, the trial was brought to an early end without resolving the issue of Mr. Estrada's guilt or innocence. The vote showed that by sheer force of numbers, the President's allies in the tribunal decided to avoid facing the truth by blocking the use of the documents in the envelope as evidence.

In moving for a vote on the opening of the envelope, the President's allies grabbed the initiative from the presiding officer, Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., to exercise the first option of ruling on the issue. By forcing the issue, the pro-Estrada senators succeeded in damaging the credibility of the impeachment process and the Senate's capacity to revolve the impeachment case on the basis of evidence rather than on loyalty or numbers.

The political repercussions from the decision followed swiftly, and the President is paying a heavy price. So controversial is the decision that within hours of the vote, it ignited a spontaneous combustion of anger in Metro Manila and in several provincial capitals. It gave new life to the flagging protest movement. It sparked the flames of what could be a People Power Revolution II.

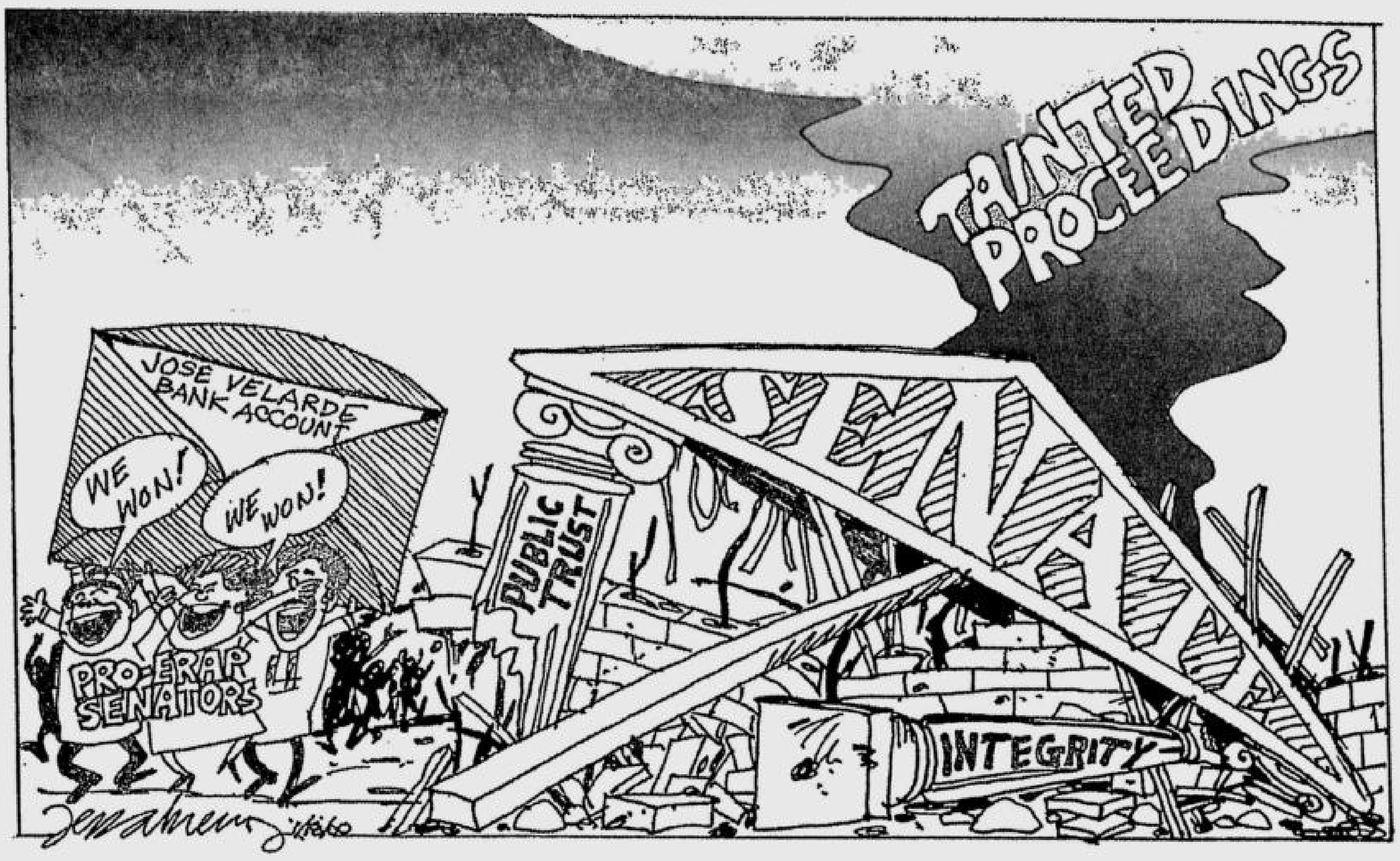
The senators who voted for suppression of evidence and the administration grossly underestimated the heavy political backlash of keeping the documents unexamined. They thought that they were deciding merely on a procedural issue. The public did not take it that way.

The public view is more fundamental. The Senate vote involves a cover-up of evidence through the artifice of legal technicalities.

The President's allies thought that the street protests demanding the resignation of the President were a spent force after the nation's attention was channeled into the impeachment process. But the gag only served to inflame the unrest, sending thousands of people in Metro Manila and other cities back to the streets in protest over the tribunal's decision. The velocity of the reaction was not expected. The street protests have been given a new momentum that is likely to intensify.

With the credibility and legitimacy of the impeachment process shattered, the resolution of the crisis has been placed in the streets. The tribunal's decision blasted the people's faith and hope in resolving the crisis through institutional and constitutional means.

Yesterday, the tribunal adjourned ahead of the Jan. 12 target of completion of the trial. Sen. Raul Roco moved for its suspension after noting that the prosecution panel had withdrawn from the case. It was the shortest session of the tribunal, lasting for less than half an hour. It could be the final nail driven into the impeachment trial, ending in disenchantment over a degraded process. There was no need to resume the trial. Doing so would have been a charade.



We now have our own Dirty Dozen

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

GUILTY!

I am referring not to President Estrada but to the 11 senators who voted not to open the mysterious second envelope from Equitable PCI Bank. They are guilty of suppressing the truth.

You have heard of The Dirty Dozen, The Magnificent Seven, the Seven Samurai, the Three Musketeers, etc. Now we have the Dirty Eleven. Add Erap as the leader to make an even dozen, and we have a new Dirty Dozen that is dirtier and more despicable than the original.

Remember their names. They are Senators Miriam Defensor-Santiago, Francisco Tatad, Tessie Aquino-Oreta, John Osmeña, Gringo Honasan, Juan Ponce Enrile, Tito Sotto, Robert Jaworski, Blas Ople, Ramon Revilla and Nikki Coseteng. It is easy to remember them because the first letters of the first six surnames and Gringo's first name (from Santiago to Sotto) spells STOOGES and the first letters of the last four surnames together sound like "jerk" although they spell JORC. The terms of some of them are expiring this year (Santiago, Tatad, Honasan, Enrile, Coseteng) and they will likely run for reelection or for some other position. You know what you should do: Vote for their strongest opponents, never for them. That is the only way we can punish them and mete out justice on them, justice that they denied to their constituents. (Stringing them up from lampposts may be appropriate but that is prohibited by law.)

We must also remember the 10 senators who voted for opening the envelope and support them. They are the heroes of the Day of Infamy in the Senate. They are: Senators Rodolfo Biazon, Renato Cayetano, Franklin Drilon, Juan Flavier, Teofisto Guingona, Loren Legarda-Leviste (LLL), Ramon Magsaysay Jr., Sergio Osmeña III, Aquilino Pimentel Jr. and Raul Roco (RR). They may have been defeated but their heads are unbowed. In fact, they emerged more like winners as the people cheered and applauded them. It was the real winners, the Dirty Eleven, who appeared like losers as they walked with heads bowed (or should I say with their heads hanging in shame?) out of the Senate session hall, the gallery booed them.

"*Nakakahiya ka,*" one woman berated Senator Revilla. "*Akala namin mabuting senador ka, 'yun pala...*"

Indeed, Revilla missed what could have been his finest moment. He could have redeemed all his long hours of silence, boo-boos and incompetence in the Senate had he voted "Yes," which would have tipped the balance in favor of opening the envelope. The nation would have forgotten his lackluster performance and made him an instant real-life hero. But he chose to be with the heels instead.

Sen. Tessie Aquino-Oreta got the ire of the public when, after the voting and Senator Pimentel resigned as Senate president, she waved her fists and danced happily, which some people found obscene. That is the sister of the martyred Ninoy Aquino. *Ninoy, nagiisa ka pa rin.* Your own sister and brother (Rep. Butz Aquino) have deserted you. The Filipino may be worth dying for, but not your siblings.

But isn't it ironic (or true to color?) that it was former Marcos Cabinet members who paved the way for the shame of the Senate, the suppression of truth and the commission of injustice on the people? It was Marcos' Information Minister Francisco Tatad who preempted Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. from ruling on the question by moving for a vote. He was seconded by Marcos' Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, the implementor of martial law. Marcos Labor Minister Blas Ople lied to media people by telling them that he would vote to open the envelope, but when voting time came, he voted no.

As Tatad read an American opinion on impeachment, somebody commented that he sounded and looked the same way when he read Marcos' declaration of martial law on television in 1972. But Tatad is only being consistent. He had a lot of experience in suppressing the truth during the martial law years.

* * *

But what was all the fuss about? Would you believe that it is about a mysterious envelope from Equitable PCI Bank whose contents we don't know. The prosecution wants it opened but the defense and the Dirty Eleven want to keep it secret.

Why are they so afraid of that envelope? It is as if it contained a bomb that would blast them to kingdom come. It may contain a bomb, yes, but not that kind. It is more like a Pandora's box which, when opened, would let loose all the stench and evil of the Erap administration. The prosecution believes it contains the smoking gun that would prove conclusively Erap's ill-gotten wealth. According to Prosecutor Joker Arroyo, it contained P3.3 billion in stolen and bribe money. The defense most likely knows that, too, and that is why it wants to hide the contents.

Erap and his lawyers and supporters claim he is innocent of all the charges against him. If it is so, why are they deathly afraid of the contents of that envelop? Whatever they are, they wouldn't harm him if he is really innocent. But by suppressing it, they are telling the people that that envelop would damn him and prove his guilt.

The suppressors of truth won. What a Black Day for our country.

* * *

TODAY's Erap joke:

Question: Why is the Philippines called a banana republic?

Answer: Because it has a sagging economy and a monkey for a president.

* * *

Comments are welcome at asiseeit@pacific.net.ph

Firestorm

WINDMILLS

Jerry Barican

SO dramatic was the turn of events of Tuesday night at the Senate that a completed column went straight to the wastebasket and required immediate replacement.

What happened that night was, in my view, a monumental political miscalculation by the administration and the defense that is difficult to comprehend, even in the President's interest. Had the defense consented to the opening of the second envelope from Equitable PCI Bank, the valid legal arguments to the contrary notwithstanding, it would not have created the impression that it had something to hide. Even more important, it would have permitted the impeachment process to continue to its logical close.

There is no hope of either now. Rep. Joker Arroyo had skilfully revealed the contents of that envelope in violation of the bank secrecy law even before the matter was decided by the Senate—a clear case of prosecutorial misconduct—all without an objection or a peep from the defense. The result is that media are awash with stories about these accounts and the administration will be forced to explain them eventually anyway, if not in the Senate then before the bar of public opinion.

And with the long announced walkout of the prosecution team now become a reality, and with the resignation of Sen. Nene Pimentel as president of that body, any hope of normally finishing the process has been lost. A verdict of acquittal or conviction has become irrelevant, at least to the many who were outraged by the Senate's close vote not to unseal the envelope. Moreover, many, not entirely unfairly, have interpreted this vote as the same that would occur on the issue of the President's innocence or guilt. We are in political *terra incognita*, and all our guidebooks and compasses have been cast away.

What is clear is that the prosecution, a large part of the country, and even a substantial membership of the House and the Senate itself are now self-declared political guerrillas, conforming to no regular process. A tactical victory for the defense therefore may end up a strategic defeat if the result is to prevent the return to normality, which the administration so fervently desires.

Did they have options? Yes. They could have proposed reasonable compromises or alternatives. They could have agreed to a comprehensive settlement. They could have refused to open the second envelope on the declared ground its contents had been prematurely as well as illegally revealed, and to deter such future conduct. In turn, they could have agreed to the admission of Clarissa Ocampo's testimony and proceeded to put forth a defense. They could have attempted to craft a compromise on subpoenas to banks that allowed at least some of the subpoenas to proceed but that limited an unrestrained use of the power in the legitimate interest of the stability of the financial system.

They did none of these things. In the process, they formed the indelible and unfortunate impression on all but the most partisan supporters of the administration that an attempt was being made to suppress evidence in order to prevent it being revealed. That may not have been the intention but that was the effect.

Had this trial involved any other private person and not the chief executive of the land, such technical legal acrobatics as were displayed by the topnotch lawyers of the defense team would have won them both accolades and ultimate success. Since this does involve the President, the successful vote for the defense on this preliminary issue in the Senate has instead all the potential for grief.

For even the opening of some or all of these pieces of evidence would not spell the end for the defense. They have promised an explanation for everything during their turn to present their case, an explanation that would have to be credible, legal and truthful.

This vote has derailed that explanation and has transferred it from the reasoned precincts of a tribunal to the impassioned locale of street protest. A trial has an end. On the other hand, it is impossible to predict where acts of civil disobedience will lead and when they will end. How can this choice possibly be better for the President, never mind the country, when it does not bring closure to this case?

If the administration is fortunate, a few days or weeks of street rage will funnel into the campaign for the May elections, both channelling that anger and blunting its force. That will provide a second framework for resolving this confrontation, which many fear will be a clash between an irresistible force and an immovable object. That gives the people and the democratic institutions a way of resolving matters.

On the other hand, if the administration is not, or if it miscalculates, this face-off may move in ways both unforeseen and unforeseeable. It may or may not escalate. Or it can lead to the worst of all solutions: a stalemate where the administration pretends it is governing and the opposition pretends that no one is obeying it.

The worst aspect of last Tuesday is that it cut out the middle ground where people could meet or compromise. It has brought the argument in this titanic struggle to death's ground, a place where the only resolution encompasses the political annihilation of one of the protagonists, bringing at least part of the nation along with it. In a democracy that is premised on compromise, good faith and a process, this is a dangerous and frightening place to be in.

It may have seemed like just an ordinary vote on a teeny-weeny issue. But the world is a different place since last Tuesday.

Prosecutors refuse to allow themselves to be used

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

PRESIDENT Fidel V. Ramos, who marched from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport straight to the Edsa Shrine yesterday (a good 18-km walk), was right when he said that with the failure of the Senate to conduct an impartial impeachment trial, the issue of President Estrada's fitness to govern is now in the "court of the Filipino people." The way mass protests are ballooning all across the nation, it was a fatal mistake for the 11 senators to vote against the opening of the second envelope from Equitable PCI Bank. For as Maj. Gen. Jose Magno, who marched with Ramos, said, this was the straw that broke the camel's back.

* * *

The Palace strategy to prevent that envelope from being opened backfired. Almost as soon as the stormy Senate trial closed Tuesday evening, citizens infuriated by the senators' refusal to open the envelope took to the streets in Metro Manila and other major cities around the country, such as Cebu, Iloilo City, Cagayan de Oro City and Davao. In Metro Manila, there was a spontaneous combustion. The protesters, many of them wearing black clothes of mourning, first spilled out to Katipunan in Loyola Heights, blowing their horns. Residents of Ayala Alabang, on the other hand, converged on Madrigal Avenue after watching the sessions, and joined the citywide noise barrage. The crowds then converged from various points at the Edsa Shrine to join Jaime Cardinal Sin and former President Cory Aquino.

Since Tuesday's events were unexpected, the protesters were mostly summoned by text and phone calls. Evidence of the lack of organization was that there was no light at the Edsa Shrine. The amplifiers, borrowed from Couples for Christ, came very late. But people stayed all night, wanting to get their anger and outrage out of their chest. It's easy to predict that the protests will escalate in the next two days.

* * *

The 10 senators who voted yes became heroes to the citizens, while the 11 who voted no were pilloried by the Edsa crowd as villains. The most severe criticisms, however, were reserved for Sen. Teresa Aquino-Oreta, who was referred to as "Oreta, pok-pok." At the Mass at the Edsa Shrine in the wee hours of the morning, Cardinal Sin was critical of her dancing act after the voting, which was caught on TV. She was gloating over the 10 senators' defeat. Sin could only say, "I pity her." I understand that nieces and nephews of Oreta, led by Mia Concio-Imperial, daughter of Oreta's sister, Lupita Aquino-Kashiwahara, are launching a prayer-fast for their aunt and to redeem the Aquino name. Whatever happened to Oreta, indeed?

* * *

Senate President Nene Pimentel caught us all by surprise not with his vote to open the envelope, but with his sudden resignation. Pimentel felt that since he did not share the sentiment of the majority, he had to resign. After keeping the public in the dark for weeks, Pimentel finally showed that the ideals of Edsa remain very much alive in his heart. His decision was wildly cheered by the gallery, who could no longer be restrained by the Senate security, and fellow opposition senators and the prosecutors came up the dais to embrace him. Senators Loren Legarda, Frank Drilon and Raul Roco wept unashamedly.

* * *

Pimentel will remain in his post until his successor is elected. There is speculation that Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, who has long aspired for that post, will be elected by the pro-administration majority. Former Gov. Lutgardo Barbo, who was handpicked by Pimentel for the post of Senate secretary, submitted his own resignation, which is not surprising. In the evening of Dec. 22, after Clarissa Ocampo's testimony, Barbo, who was an activist before he became Eastern Samar governor, told this columnist that if the results of the trial would be unfair and unjust he would resign and rejoin the parliament of the streets.

* * *

The House prosecutors did the right thing in resigning irrevocably. The vote of the 11 senators demonstrated that they have no desire to allow the truth to come out about the President's gargantuan bank holdings and properties, so there is no point in continuing with the trial. The prosecutors will only use them to legitimize a sure acquittal of Estrada—a decision that will be based on party and perhaps even monetary considerations, not the overwhelming evidence brought out in the trial. By resigning, the prosecutors have served notice that they would not allow themselves to be used.

* * *

By the way, an unimpeachable source says that star defense counsel Estelito Mendoza was gifted by President Estrada with a Mercedes-Benz 500 (worth over P3.5 million), which is used only by ambassadors from the superrich countries, on his birthday early this month. The source also says that after the lawyer's wife teased the President, "What about for me?" she got a Mercedes-Benz 250 the next day. Given Estrada's generosity, a citizen wondered how much the 11 senators got as gifts for their no vote.

* * *

The defense and the pro-Estrada senators had to make sure that the second envelope remained sealed since it contained information on the Jose Velarde savings account, which fed the Velarde checking account from which the P500 million invested by Estrada in the Wellex Group and the P142 million invested in the Boracay mansions were drawn. As Tony Carpio, Ramos' former legal adviser, explained to this columnist, if this savings account was not identified, then the testimony of Clarissa Ocampo and even the issue of the presidential mansions could be imperiled. To be sure, a lot of information about the contents of the savings account are already known to the public.

* * *

It was smart of prosecutor Joker Arroyo to have disclosed during his pleading last Tuesday such information as the size of the savings (P3.3 billion at one time) as well as the people who had deposited in it. He doubtless anticipated the negative majority vote. Moreover, Pinoy Times president Eggy Apostol showed on TV copies of what was purported to be information on this account. Nevertheless, for the court's purposes, what was needed were the official documents from the bank which were in the envelope, and that had to remain sealed.

Reports indicate, however, that this account, gargantuan as it was, was only one of many that Estrada had in local banks. But Arroyo said even more staggering are Estrada's foreign currency deposits, although they are even harder to crack than the local accounts.

'Text power' and 'Media power'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

IF the masses of people gathered at the Edsa Shrine and other strategic spots around the country are indeed "People Power Part II," as the media and some folks claim, then it is "People Power with a Twist."

The spontaneous gathering of thousands of chanting, singing, praying, screaming and horn-tooting citizens late Tuesday evening and well into the early hours of Wednesday could not have been possible without the power of the new communications technology—"texting power," to be specific.

Almost from the minute the dramatic and even emotional events at the impeachment trial wound down, with the tearful "Yes" senators gathered around an equally tearful Senate President Nene Pimentel, text messages began flooding into cell phones all over the city.

First were angry denunciations of the "No" eleven, ranging from unsubstantiated charges of bribery and (perhaps substantiated) allegations of stupidity, to insults about their behavior, ethics and state of mind. Then came calls for some form of "action," including placing "Guilty" signs on our vehicles and wearing black the next day. Around 9 p.m, these messages began to take on the form of a common call for a "noise barrage" at 11 p.m. Then as the hour neared, came messages asking everyone to proceed to the Edsa Shrine.

Sickened by what I had just seen on TV and feeling my chest about to burst with fury and frustration, I called to my son to join me in a "noise barrage," though in our case it was just the two of us in our two cars tooting our horns at the subdivision gate before a largely desolate Marcos Highway. Then came the text messages to gather at the Edsa Shrine. We decided to pass by Katipunan Avenue first and found the thoroughfare choked with vehicles tooting an "Erap Resign" staccato and young people shouting and holding up "Guilty!" signs. The dam of ill-will and despair building up in me burst. I was not alone in my anger, after all.

* * *

I DON'T know what I expected at the Shrine. Perhaps a few hundred people huddled together, muttering about the Benighted Eleven. What my son and I found instead were masses of people in front of the Shrine and spilling over to both sides of Ortigas and Edsa, vehicles parked helter-skelter, and the skyways filling up with noisy ralliers. Conservative estimates would place our number at 10,000, others claimed that at its height, the crowd numbered closer to 80,000.

The air was filled with a rhythmic noise, car horns and even blasts from huge cargo trucks, rods and stones beating on the metal railings of the skyways, and human voices all joined in demanding, "E-rap Re-sign!" Many carried candles and wore their sentiments on their sleeves, their hastily put-together outfits accessorized with "Guilty!" stickers. And every time I encountered someone I knew, we would jointly echo each other's feelings of disgust and anger at what had just transpired at the impeachment trial. The 11 naysayers may have destroyed whatever belief and trust I had held in the country's political and legal systems, and in the capacity of our elected officials to rise above partisan and political considerations. But the awesome display of spontaneous, unorganized "People Power" at the Shrine upheld my belief in the Filipino people.

We will not be put down. We will not be silenced. We will not stay quiet and meek while the combined forces of the presidency, the party in power and his criminal cronies conspire to insult us, dupe us, turn our heads around with lies and gimmicks.

At the very least, we will text our thoughts and feelings. When called, we will risk comfort, a good night's sleep, even personal safety to stand up for ourselves.

* * *

AND if you think the power of texting was confined to Metro Manila alone, then you have another think coming.

A friend who happened to be in Cebu Tuesday evening recalls texting his frustrations to a Cebu-based friend, wanting to know what he could do since he was not a "native." In time, they began a texting "brigade" to common friends, asking them all to gather at the Puente Osmeña just to let off steam. Well, these friends texted other friends, and by the time they gathered at the city's center, they were almost a thousand strong! Similar spontaneous outbursts of popular rage took place in other urban centers like Davao, Bacolod, Baguio.

The cell phone has long ceased to be a status symbol. Today it is almost a necessity. Taxi drivers, messengers, market vendors and high school and grade school kids are among those seen lugging cell phones.

"People Power Part II" would not have materialized, however, if it relied on "texting power" alone. Instead, it was tied to an equally—if not more—awesome phenomenon. Media power.

* * *

WITHOUT the relentless, unblinking and unforgiving saturation coverage of the impeachment hearings, the public would never have taken the matter of the President's impeachment to heart. Sen. Sonny Osmeña was right in part to complain about it, for it was the media coverage that made the hearings such a matter of import to ordinary Filipinos, whereas he seems to view it as little more than a boring obligation.

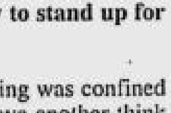
Without the TV cameras covering the hearings live, we would not have been "treated" to the trial's highlights, from Miriam's tantrums to the Fortun Brothers' staging of "Who is the Real Delia Rajas?" We would not have seen with our own eyes the quiet but courageous testimony of the magnificent women: Emma Lim, Malu Itchon, Shakira Yu and, of course, Clarissa Ocampo. We would not have had a front-row view of the clashes of the legal titans, from Estelito Mendoza to Joker Arroyo, Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. and the perorating senators.

Media brought all of us there, and media made us care. When this was coupled with the power of personal information technology, the schemes and dreams of Erap and his band of thieves stood no chance.

The Davide standard

HUMAN FACE

Ma. Ceres P. Doyo



READERS were pleased that the INQUIRER's Filipino of the Year for 2000 is Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., presiding officer of the impeachment trial of President Estrada. Yes, Your Honor, some readers would say, when asked if they agreed.

(Shameless and disgusting is how I would describe how pro-Estrada senator-judges bypassed Davide last Tuesday to prevent him from making a ruling on the opening or not of that second envelope containing damning evidence against President Estrada. They didn't want to hear him first and vote after if they wished to. They were afraid to listen to a just and upright man.)

For more on Davide, read Justice Artemio V. Panganiban's book " Leadership by Example: The Davide Standard" published in 1999. Prolific Panganiban recently came out with his fifth book "Transparency: Unanimity and Diversity" where he writes again about Davide in one section.

(The two, and not just one, long quotes in last Sunday's INQUIRER article on Davide should both be attributed to Panganiban.)

That someone would write a book that is centered on a colleague says a lot about the one being written about, if not about the one writing. Panganiban is an admirer of Davide but he is not a fawning sycophant. The two have differed in their views on allegiances to any particular philosophy and how this affects objectivity. They have not always been of the same opinion on cases.

"Leadership by Example: The Davide Standard" is not all about Davide but also about judicial leadership. Davide is held up as a shining example. Panganiban knows Davide intimately, not just as a colleague in the Supreme Court but as someone who has shown in his own private life what it is to be a good, upright human being. Panganiban points out two qualities of Davide that stand out. These are thoroughness and moral courage.

Of Davide's thoroughness Panganiban writes: "His thoroughness and meticulousness are demonstrated by his *ponencias*, which are loaded with relevant details. He is an avid and fast reader with an amazing capacity to absorb and internalize facts as well as to analyze legal provisions."

Davide's "elephantine memory" amazes Panganiban who cites an instance when Davide quoted from memory footnotes from Panganiban's *ponencias*.

On moral courage Panganiban says: "What political will is to a sovereign head, moral courage is to a magistrate. A judge may have memorized all the statutes and regulations; he may know by heart the Constitution and the codes; he may even have imprinted on his brain the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But if he has no moral courage—if he does not have the willingness to battle the establishment; to carry on in spite of seemingly insurmountable opposition; to be a beacon for the weak, the oppressed and disadvantaged; and to stand for his conviction against all odds, even against all his colleagues and the entire government machinery put together—he is really nothing."

Moral courage Davide has plenty of, Panganiban asserts. "To have moral courage means not only theoretical bravery in battle but, a priori, a purity of spirit and clarity of conscience. For only he who is pure of heart and clear of mind, possessed of integrity, beyond suspicion and with no skeletons to hide, can afford to challenge the gods."

Davide was appointed chief justice in a most unconventional way. President Estrada swore him into office without a formal written appointment during Bonifacio Day celebrations. Davide took his oath at the foot of the Bonifacio shrine in Manila.

His appointment was widely praised by the public, the bar, the bench. The choice, the INQUIRER said at that time, was one of the more inspired decisions of President Estrada whose first few months in office had been marked by "a slew of horrible and erratic decisions that suggested that the government was getting unstuck and the President was not in control."

Shortly after his appointment, Davide launched "The Davide Watch" which spelled out the vision, mission and direction of the Supreme Court under his leadership. Davide's vision, Panganiban points out, permeates both the bench and the bar. Independence, integrity, excellence and effectiveness (IIEE) for the bench; and education and professionalism (EP) for the bar.

Davide has proven to be his own man, as he has always been, and he moved to lay down the principles of what he called "an activist court" with the Constitution as its cornerstone. He wanted a tribunal grounded "in the pursuit of excellence in public service and social reforms." He moved to reorganize the judiciary, weed out corruption, preserve the tribunal's independence and plug leaks in the decision-making process.

Davide has a track record, an impeccable one. At this point he serves as a fulcrum, where rests the balance. Using another metaphor, he could very well be a lamp to help illumine the way. For the impeachment trial is not just a purely legal process, it is a political one, one that needs light as much as weight, discernment as much as reason.

* * *

That song. A number of readers sent letters asking about the song that the peasant sang while he was being tortured which I mentioned in this column last week.

I dug into my files and found the article where I had quoted a line from that church hymn that I had asked the peasant to sing during the 1984 interview. It goes: "*Luyo sa kabunturan, gugma ug kalooy* (On the other side of dawn, there is love and mercy)." I'm sure people in Mindanao still sing it.

The man's name is Mansueto Lingatong. I have kept the tape that captured the sounds during the exhumation, including that of a mother softly wailing, "*Anak... pastilan, anak.*"

Thanks for the letters.

Shining moments, too

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

THE "TEXTING" helped. The messages were flying thick and fast shortly after the Senate trial ended last Tuesday. There would be a noise barrage at 11 that night at Morato and a rally at Edsa afterward. The e-mail helped as well. The messages were flying just as thick and fast on the Web, with urgent pleas to forward them to friends. There would be an outpouring of public wrath over the events that had just transpired in the Senate.

They helped, those modern-day thingamajigs, which made getting in touch with one another easy as pie. Veterans of Edsa would say with awe that the throng that pushed out into Edsa late last Tuesday night, or early Wednesday morning, was so much bigger than the one that massed there during the first night of the People Power Revolution of 1986. A greater miracle, too, in that it materialized only a couple of hours after the event that triggered it. The analysts among the crowd would nod their heads and say with pragmatic wisdom that it was the modern means of communication that did it.

Ah, but modern communications only make it possible to get in touch with people faster than the speed of light. They do not make it possible to touch people deeper than tongues of fire. Modern communications only make it possible to keep people abreast of the latest developments. They do not make it possible to fill their breasts with the oldest sentiments, the ones that allowed humankind to make a leap in evolution. What drove the throng out of their homes and their sleep last Tuesday night was more than invention, it was conviction.

Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, the soldier who had gone through Edsa without ever understanding it, had predicted there would not be another people power because there was no dazzling figure to mesmerize the troops. He said there would not be another Edsa because there was no charismatic figure to inspire the hordes. You went to Morato and Edsa last Tuesday night, and you would have seen how that comment missed the target completely. *Ang layo sa putukan*, as the local saying far more vividly puts it, a fatal mistake for one who once devoted his life to battles and wars. You went to Morato and Edsa that night, and you would have realized that outrage is the hardest taskmaster there is, conscience is the cruelest flagellant there is, decency is the most irresistible force there is.

At Morato, I saw something that drove home the point to me. Amid the bedlam and the traffic, amid the honking of horns to the rhythm of "Erap resign!" a pedicab slid into a curb disgorging its more than half-a-dozen passengers and a dog. How they fitted in that contraption, I did not know. It was one of the wonders of the night. The occupants were mostly women and children, only the pedicab driver, who looked malnourished but was stronger than a horse, was a male adult. I thought they were on their way home. But no, they stopped at the curb, got off and started chanting and clapping along with the crowd. These were not the well-heeled denizens of Morato, these were the rubber-slippered residents of the slums that squeezed through its interstices. They had come to contribute their voices to a crowd grown resplendent in righteous anger. Their dog did not bark but sat quietly on the sidewalk and watched the proceedings with canine equanimity. I thought it issued the loudest roar of all.

What drove the citizens to the streets that night—the news reports would say the phenomenon wasn't confined to Metro Manila but manifested itself across the country—wasn't just technology, it was grace. It was the disgust, the shock of enlightenment, the sudden and compelling need to do something about the stench and foulness that had risen to engulf them. The events that had transpired in the Senate did not just bring Loren Legarda and Franklin Drilon to tears, it brought all those who witnessed it to tears. Friends of mine did exactly what the senator-judges who had just lost the vote did: they wept unashamedly and hugged each other, without finding solace.

And suddenly, miraculously, inconsolable grief turned to boundless anger. And suddenly, miraculously, boundless anger turned into luminous action. It did help monumentally—what sublime justice, enough to turn cynics into fervent believers in Providence—that the people who tried to gag the truth that night were the very pillars of martial law: Juan Ponce Enrile and Francisco Tatad. Then they were aided by five-star generals, this time they were aided by five-star buffoons in the form of ex-entertainers, an ex-military rebel and a very current sister of Ninoy Aquino. And the people who tried to free the truth that night were the very pillars of the struggle against martial law, who were Joker Arroyo and Nene Pimentel.

Ah, Nene, but I am glad I never lost hope in you, notwithstanding what many of your friends and constituents from Cagayan de Oro had begun to think. I did say when I praised Manny Villar for his brilliant gambit in the House of Representatives that you will find your own shining hour ere this trial was over. You did, last Tuesday night.

And suddenly, the sweetest victory Erap's legions thought they had won in the debate turned, like the mightiest victory Marcos' legions thought they had won in the 1986 "snap elections," into their bitterest defeat. Suddenly, through the pall of darkness that cast its hand upon the land, the people themselves brought light into the land. Literally. While the unjust turned in their beds in fitful sleep, the just turned that spot in Edsa that had become home to dust, grime and the tubercular cough of engines ablaze once again.

There was no one leader in the crowd that fretful night, or restless dawn. There was no one figure that stood out from the crowd that night that joyful night, or blissful dawn. There was only one vast, seamless, ceaseless yoking of hearts and minds.

Across the ripple of human flesh, aglow in neon, people spoke through bullhorns and loudspeakers, damning, exhorting, making people weep and laugh. Across the sea of human faces, luminescent in the light thrown by their mobile phones, while they "texted" the world to come to where they were, emotions ran riot, sadness, exultation and resolve chasing each other like light and shadow on the face of the earth. There was no one hand there that brought the waters to burst the dam. There were only small streams that fed into a mighty sea.

It takes "texting" and e-mail to make a gathering. It takes hearts and minds to make a revolution.

* * *

Comments are welcome at dequiros@vasia.com

THEY SAID

Collective evil

"We are tired of national scandals, economic hardships, ethnic or class divisions and collective evil spawned by a bad leadership."

—Linda Montayre of the People's Consultative Assembly

P7-million bounty

"She is being self-important. Imagine asking for P7 million. Does she want to make money from this?"

—Akbayan Rep. Etta Rosales on the petition filed by Sen. Miriam Santiago seeking to restrain the staging of protests in front of her house and office

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

LETTERS

A vote that said everything

A TRAVESTY of justice was made Tuesday tonight in the impeachment court. I was overwhelmed by the obvious lack of sensitivity and moral consciousness of the majority of the members of the Senate who voted against the opening of the envelope containing the alleged multi-billion account of President Estrada. If this is an indication of the final verdict, then I can say without a shadow of doubt that justice will never be served. If this is not a mockery of our justice system, I don't know what is.

We should look back at this event with passionate fury and remember it as a blatant display of disrespect for the truth. We should remember the moral weakness of those who stubbornly and proudly defend corruption. We need to feel with all our hearts how shameful a country we have become, and how we have allowed our nation to drown in this monstrosity. We need to let the feeling seep to the very marrow of our bones so that we will be fired with the desire to change the course of our pathetic history.

We are not far from hitting rock bottom now. Hell is near. We don't know how painful are the flaming confines of the Underworld but we can get some idea from the Hades-like management of our country by the Estrada administration. It will only get worse if the President gets acquitted.

For a long time I forced myself to believe that the truth will come out in the end and that Joseph Estrada will be convicted. I clung to that hope despite the harrowing news I got each day about the case. I believed justice would prevail.

I was wrong. Justice can never come from a court that mocks justice itself. Justice can never come from a court composed mainly of proud and morally misguided judges. Justice can never come from a court filled with self-serving politicians. Thus, I was wrong to assume that the President would be convicted. .

Now, I have reason to detest my country. I have enough cause to abhor the land that embraces such despicable beings as the President and his cronies and supporters. I and hundreds of thousands of my peers have had enough of this.

How are we supposed to feel proud of this nation? How are we supposed to take on the responsibility of defending its integrity when our leaders have corrupted it?

I do not wish to generalize. I acknowledge that individuals should be treated individually. I recognize that history can be altered from the now and that the future can be shaped and molded in the right way.

But a lot needs to be done. Greed and corruption in government does not and will not help us in any way. We need to set the basic premises of our morality. We need to address moral issues before we can even talk about taking the road to national recovery.

I applaud Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. for resigning his high position. It served him and the country well. Gestures like that tell us that indeed there is hope and that there is a silver lining in the scattered clouds of uncertainty. What he did should impel us to not only hope for something good to come at the end of this battle but to actually take part in the battle. We need to not just believe, but to voice out the belief that we can win this fight. We need to not only guard the truth but to propagate it, especially in the minds of the young generation.

A new beginning can be made and a new nation can be born. A country that respects and reveres the genuine essence of truth and justice. A country that upholds the dignity of its leaders as men and women of decency and righteousness. A country with a government free of evil and corruption. A country we can all be proud of.

We have to shed off our indifference and start fighting the good fight.—**CLARISSA RUTH S. RACHO, 8 Waterlily St., Hobart Village 2, Valenzuela City**

DZRJ programs being jammed

I WRITE to voice my concern about what could be part of a systematic effort to stifle the voice of the political opposition.

Last Dec. 12, I was the invited guest in the morning radio program of Rey Hidalgo Santos of dzRJ. Among the topics we discussed were the ongoing impeachment proceedings and the article in Der Spiegel on the alleged kickbacks received by President Estrada and Secretary Robert Aventajado from ransom paid to the Abu Sayyaf, topics which are the staple of all the radio and television stations then.

What was most unusual was that dzRJ's transmission was marred by static or electronic interference throughout the hour-long interview. Some callers inquired whether the program was deliberately being jammed by parties who did not want the program to be heard. One caller even identified himself as an electronics expert and said he was convinced that the jamming was deliberate.

I understand that this jamming has been occurring for several days now during dzRJ's programs which have political content.

Given dzRJ's reputation for being an "opposition" station and the identification of its owner as the prolific composer of many anti-administration jingles, the jamming is not totally unexpected. However, considering that a democratic society is all about being able to express one's opinions and making choices based on an intelligent and informed appreciation of all the available facts, the jamming of dzRJ's transmission is most deplorable.

The objective of the ongoing impeachment proceedings is to reveal the truth. Newspapers, television stations, radio stations and all their reporters, columnists and commentators should all be instruments for uncovering the truth and making the truth known. Different forces in our society, whether from the center, left, right or whatever other persuasion, are entitled to express themselves through all the available media. Ultimately, it is up to each citizen to weigh all the information before him and decide what his or her personal truth is. Hopefully, this decision and discernment has been shaped by a mature conscience, the grace of God, and a desire to do what is right for our nation.

I strongly condemn any effort to gag the crusading media in general, and dzRJ in particular. Let us allow the voices of the people to be heard, no matter how noisy and discordant they may sometimes be.—**REP. IGNACIO R. BUNYE, Muntinlupa City**

Unfettered democracy in RP

I SPENT three weeks in late December and early January in the Philippines mainly for the baptism of my grandson (whose mother is a Filipina) in Abra. Like many people in the Philippines I became addicted to the impeachment drama/comedy/soap opera. In the United States I had been following the impeachment trial of President Estrada through the international news media which provided only highlights and summaries.

As a foreigner, I have no right to say what the verdict should be. But I can state that today's Philippines, as demonstrated by the impeachment and trial of its President, qualifies as a vibrant, robust or unfettered democracy—not a "limited" democracy such as Singapore or Malaysia. One of the critical criteria for a robust democracy is freedom of the media, such is, without doubt, the case in the Philippines. Bringing to the public via television and radio the uncensored proceedings of the impeachment trial is the quintessential proof of media freedom to which must be added the vibrant press with its editorials, commentaries, columnists, letters from the public, as well as the public demonstrations and gatherings.

In the year 2001, another crucial criterion is the status of women. In this, the Philippines is among the best, with one woman president to its name and another one coming possibly in the near future. The impeachment has shown the vitality of women in government (the Senate panel), in business, education, banking (the exemplary role of Clarissa Ocampo), in law, in the media, etc. In a way, the Philippines is ahead of the United States and Canada as far as what its women have achieved.

An unfettered democracy is not the most efficient government; it often tends to mediocrity. But as Winston Churchill said "It is the worst government but I have found not a better one."—**CHARLES W. ARNADE, professor of International Studies, University of South Florida/Tampa, USA**

OUTSIDE THE CIRCLE OF POWER

A symposium to further discussion on contests for power, in connection with the exhibit

Sheer Realities CLOTHING AND POWER IN NINETEENTH CENTURY PHILIPPINES

AT THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF MANILA

Days/Dates: 19 January, Friday, and 20 January, Saturday 2001 at the Metropolitan Museum of Manila

The symposium brings together scholarship that has focussed attention on the communities of 19th century Philippines other than the elite and the *ilustrado*. These others include peoples classified as *salvajes* or *infieles*, *Moros*, *remontados*, *tulisanes*, *vagamundos*, *esclavos*, as well as the generically classified *naturales* or *indios*, the peasants, women and the new laborers.

FRIDAY, 19 JANUARY 2001
MORNING SESSION
Introduction: Mr Ricardo M de Ungria (symposium moderator)
Keynote: Dr Reynaldo C Ileto
Re-readings: Dr Patricia Afable; Dr Eduardo Ugarte, Dr Francis Gealogo
AFTERNOON SESSION
Outsider-Insider: Namamangka sa dalawang ilog: Dr Resil Mojares, Mr Regalado Trota Jose, Jr Dr Greg Bankoff, Dr Elena Rivera Mirano

SATURDAY, 20 JANUARY 2001
MORNING SESSION
Hanapbuhay, hanap-patay and other explorations: Ms Corazon S Alvina, Dr Cherubim Quizon Sotiropolous (paper), Dr Felice Noelle Rodriguez
AFTERNOON SESSION
Quotidian: aspects of daily life: Dr Fernando N Zialcita, Mr Ramon N Villegas, Dr Carmen Molina
Closing: Ms Marian Pastor Roces

The symposium **Outside the Circle of Power** was organized by the **Metropolitan Museum of Manila** and **THE ASIA SOCIETY PHILIPPINE FOUNDATION**, with generous support from **THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS, INSTITUTO CERVANTES, JAPAN AIRLINES**, and **PHILIPPINE AIRLINES**. For inquiries, call 521 1517 / 523 7855.

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF MANILA

Setback for Tsinoy integration efforts

THIS is in reaction to Neal H. Cruz's column "Erap, stay away from cronies with monosyllabic surnames." (PDI, 1/15/01) You just have to glance at the title and you will surely get the idea that the article is about Chinese-Filipinos. Although I do share the general sentiment that Dante Tan et al. are part of the problem we are all going through right now, I was appalled by how Cruz stressed their being Chinese.

Yes, they may be the scum of Philippine society. Nevertheless, their "Chineseness" is not the reason they are like that. As with any race, there are bad eggs among us Chinese-Filipinos. True, most of the President's cronies are of Chinese descent. Nevertheless, there are also Tsinoys in society who are one with the Filipino people in clamoring for good governance.

I may be no expert, but Cruz's words did strike a raw nerve. I am a young Tsinoy "writer," and for years I have been trying to narrow the gap between Filipinos and Tsinoys. Although it may not be his intention, I do fear that his words may set back the various endeavors of Tsinoys to be incorporated into mainstream Filipino society and to be regarded as "brothers."

This may be petty and shallow of me (some may even say I am paranoid) to comment on such things, but I do believe that it is these petty things that cause division in our nation. And certainly, God knows how badly we could do without such divisiveness right now.—**KRYSTY CHOI, 607C D. Leon, San Juan, Metro Manila**

Millennium math

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

IT'S official—we're now into a new millennium. Those who insisted 2000 was the start, and that includes me, are recanting. It was such a bad year so we may as well start fresh with 2001.

To mark the new millennium, I have prepared some special exercises for teachers and parents to practice the kids' math. I've furnished the answers, together with side remarks you might expect from a 21st century Filipino smart-alecky kid.

Teacher: A certain Delia Rajas was said to have withdrawn P50 million from a bank account. Delia Rajas, it turns out, earns P2,000 a month as a cook for Atong Ang's mother. How long would it have taken Rajas to earn P50 million?

Student: It would have taken 25,000 months or 2,083 years and 4 months. Ma'am, P50 million is also what Erap was said to have bet on one mahjong game. Ma'am, I have no intentions of working for P2,000 a month so when do we start learning to play mahjong, or *jueteng*?

Teacher: If you bought five million shares of BW at the start of the year 1999, when it was worth P2.04 a share, how much would you have made if you sold all those shares when it reached the price of P27.50 per share in June 1999?

Student: Five million shares at P2.04 each would cost P10.2 million. At P27.50 per share, the shares would be worth P56.1 million. But Ma'am, I still think it's easier to make money through mahjong and *jueteng*.

Teacher: Sen. Ramon Revilla says that on his chicken-weighing scale, a P1,000 bill weighs 0.96 grams. How heavy then would P6 million be in P1,000 bills?

Student: One million pesos would consist of 1,000 pieces of those purple bills, which means six million pesos would weigh 5,760 grams or 5.76 kilos or 12.672 pounds. No wonder Juancho Mendiola had to go to the toilet after he boarded the plane. Ma'am, what was the senator doing weighing chickens?

Teacher: Last November the Philippine government borrowed money by issuing bonds worth P5,286,000,000 at 18.25 percent interest. How long will it take for that debt to double? How much would those bonds be when they mature, in the year 2025?

Student: Wow, that was a tough one. The bonds' value will double in the year 2004, when Erap finishes his term. Ma'am *naman*, I couldn't calculate its worth in 2025—the answer won't fit in my calculator. Ma'am, question. Why is the government borrowing so much money and at such high interest rates?

Teacher: Next question. The Philippines' public debt is now P2 trillion. How many zeros are there in a trillion?

Student (with some coaching from Jeremy, a British authority on money matters, and the Queen's English): It depends. A trillion has different meanings in the US and in the UK. In the United States, a trillion would have 12 zeroes. Being an American colony, I guess that's the way we Filipinos use "trillion." But our politicians should know that if they ever decide to deposit their stolen trillions in the United Kingdom, (highly unlikely, Jeremy sniffs, because of strict British banking laws), their money only amounts to billions as far as the Brits go. In the United Kingdom, a trillion is a million million million, with 18 zeroes.

Billion also has different meanings. The American (and Filipino) billion has 9 zeroes while in the United Kingdom, a billion is a million million, i.e., it has 12 zeroes while the American billion only has 9. However, the Brits now sometimes use the American system. Because the British billion is so large, there aren't any British billionaires. The British press will, however, refer to Bill Gates and his kind as billionaires, even if they don't make the grade in the British definition.

Teacher: Last question. If Era...*ay, este*, Jose Velarde decides to convert P500 million to US dollars next month at P52 to a dollar, how much will he get in greenbacks?

Student: Depends, ma'am, if Velar...ay, sorry, if Erap is still President. But Ma'am, I hope he has enough suitcases and couriers to bring around the P500 million because that would weigh 480 kilos on Senator Revilla's chicken scale. Ma'am, do you want us to compute the weight of P1.2 billion?

* * *

Comments can be sent to miguel@pinoykasi.org

Acquittal not acceptable

I PROBABLY write on behalf of many overseas Filipinos when I say we cannot accept a verdict of acquittal for President Estrada in his impeachment trial. We always watch live the trial through satellite television. And we know the testimony of witnesses and the evidence presented against the President are very credible and strong.

When President Estrada is convicted on or before Feb. 12, I will be more proud to be a Filipino. We have already removed from office a dictator. We will remove soon a *kubrador*.

After the trial, all defense lawyers will become immaterial and irrelevant. I think they should be disbarred for lack of candor and for hiding the truth.—**OSCAR R. LANDICHO, Sydney, Australia**

Not in Antique

WHAT is Antique? A place where the mountains meet the sea, where God-fearing and peace-loving Antiqueños live.

Aside from that, what is Antique? A place where promises were made and broken, yet we do not cling to those hopeless promises but rather to the belief that "behind the cloud lies the sun." Progress is every man's dream and even though it comes ever so slowly, every bit of it gives us the strength to go on.

But now our future promises to carry the stench of garbage imported from Metro Manila. Forget it. Not in Antique! Remember that we are awake and ready to lock arms together and to shed our blood to protect our islands, God's gift to us.—**GILROY D. ALAMIS, Poblacion Lauan-an, Antique**

Wahoo Guerrero

A BRILLIANT STROKE OF THEATER FIRES OFF 2001!

Zeneida Amador

in

William Shakespeare's

King Lear

with:

Nieves Campa•Pinky Amador•Ana Abad Santos•Jaime del Mundo
Paolo Fabregas•Miguel Vasquez•Richard Joson•Jeremy Domingo
Paul Holme•Peter Heath•Maritoni Rufino-Tordesillas

Designed and Directed by Anton Juan

January 12, 13, 19, 20, 26 & 27•7:30 PM
January 11, 14, 18, 21, 25 & 28•3:00 PM
Tanghalang Aurelio Tolentino (CCP Little Theater)

TICKETS AT P400/ P300 NOW AVAILABLE AT CCP BOX OFFICE
& ALL TICKETWORLD NATIONAL BOOKSTORE OUTLETS
OR CALL CCP MARKETING TEL NOS 832-3878 & 551-7930

A project of the Cultural Center of the Philippines with The World Theater Project at Sambalikhaan

Victimized by 'tactical operations'

THIS is a reaction to the column of Rina Jimenez-David last Jan. 6 where she described the "appalling tale of folks in the Muslim enclave in Culiat have to tell."

This incident where innocent civilians are subjected to detention and inhuman interrogation by the military is not new and unprecedented. In the military lingo, this is known as "tactical operation," whatever that means.

In the early days of martial law, I was also a victim, together with my neighbors in Barangay Kasilawan, Makati, of this "tactical operation." At around midnight, immediately following the day when Imelda Marcos suffered injuries from a knife-wielding man at the Nayong Pilipino, military people in combat uniform swooped down on our barangay. All the male residents were ordered to come out of their homes and bring out all knives, bolos and other bladed weapons to be surrendered to the armed soldiers stationed in front of their houses.

Thereafter, all the male residents were lined up along the streets two abreast. We were then subjected to inhuman verbal abuse and threatened with death if we would not point out who among us was the knife-wielding man whom the soldiers suspected to be in hiding in our barangay. When no one among us told the soldiers anything because we knew absolutely nothing of what they were looking for, they surrounded us and aimed their rifles at us, as if we were to be executed.

After about two minutes of this ordeal, some of the soldiers began shoving anyone they fancied with their Armalite rifles. We were trembling in fear and expecting the soldiers to fire at us anytime.

After what seemed to be a long time, the commanding officer ordered us to return to our houses. The soldiers then carted away all the confiscated bladed weapons.

Early next morning, I went to Camp Aguinaldo to complain about the incident. The officer who interviewed me was very courteous and apologetic after hearing my tale. However, he advised me to just forget about the incident. There was nothing that he could do about my complaint because he said that what happened was a tactical operation. Whatever that means.—**FRANCISCO M. UNGRIA SR., lawyer, F.M. Ungria Law Office, 236 Cayanga, San Fabian, Pangasinan**

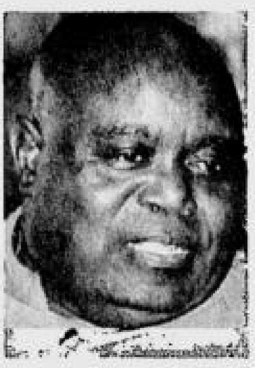
IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@ inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

The WORLD

MARGOT J. BATERINA, Editor

Congo's Kabila shot dead



KABILA

KINSHASA—An overnight curfew brought an uneasy calm to Kinshasa as uncertainty reigned after the shooting of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) President Laurent Kabila, reportedly killed by his own bodyguard.

Officials in the capital made no public statement as to the fate or whereabouts of the president following Tuesday's shooting at Kabila's official residence in the capital.

However the Army tightened security and sealed off borders of the vast central African state, appealing to the population to remain calm.

Belgian Foreign Minister Louis Michel said that Kabila was "dead, killed by his own bodyguard," in a statement released to AFP by his spokesperson Olivier Alsteens.

Michel's information came from two "very reliable" sources, Alsteens said, without identifying them. Belgium is the former colonial power in the war-ravaged DRC.

Alsteens said Brussels did not know who was currently in charge of the vast central African country.

Just moments before the ministerial statement, Belgian public radio RTBF reported from Kinshasa that Kabila had been shot in the back and leg by one of his own security guards and transported by helicopter to a hospital in Kinshasa.

The French foreign ministry later confirmed the Belgian statement, but gave no details except that the situation was again calm in Kinshasa, whose streets were deserted late Tuesday amid the government-imposed curfew and torrential rain.

The United States said it believed Kabila had been assassinated and urged combatants in the central African country's civil war not to interfere.

"We have consistent reporting from the region and friends in Europe that Kabila has been killed," a senior State Department official requesting anonymity said.

Britain's ambassador in Kinshasa said he had received reports from "usually reliable" sources confirming that Kabila had been shot dead.

The Belga news agency here said that one of Kabila's top military aides, Col. Eddy Kapend, had taken power in Kinshasa, at least temporarily.

Kapend announced on state television just after the shooting that the country's air, river and land links had been closed by the Army. He made no mention of the gunfire at Kabila's residence. *AFP*

Rebel-turned-president used dictator's method

KINSHASA, Congo—After spending much of his life as a rebel, Laurent Kabila became president of Congo in 1997 only to see his regime face its own rebellion.

On Tuesday, the future of Kabila's government was thrown into question, with reports that the strongman died after being shot during a coup attempt in this vast Central African nation.

While the government here would not elaborate publicly on their president's condition, Kabila's US spokesperson John Aycoth said in Durham, North Carolina, that the president had been killed.

Kabila, who for years led a Congolese insurgent movement, was swept into the international limelight when he was picked to lead a Rwanda- and Uganda-backed rebel Army that deposed longtime dictator Mobutu Sese Seko in May 1997.

He promised to rebuild the nation left in ruins by Mobutu, who became one of the world's richest men by plundering the country's vast mineral wealth.

But before Kabila had even reached the capital, Kinshasa, his reputation was tarnished by allegations his soldiers had massacred Hutu refugees who fled Rwanda, fearing reprisals for the 1994 slaughter of more than 500,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus.

Once in power, Kabila resorted to the same dictatorial practices as Mobutu. He ruled by decree, repeatedly blocked UN war crimes investigators and brutally repressed the opposition, while carefully cultivating a personality cult.

Kabila's policies—including price controls and stringent exchange regulations—only increased the country's economic woes, and the country sank into a state of bitter decay.

In August 1998, Kabila in turn faced a rebellion launched by Congolese Tutsis, disaffected Congolese soldiers and opposition politicians backed by Kabila's former patrons, Rwanda and Uganda.

The rebel Army eventually divided into acrimony—and sometimes outright combat. There are now three main rebel groups that control a large swath of eastern Congo.

A shaky peace accord was signed in July 1999 by Kabila and his allies—Zimbabwe, Angola and Namibia—and by Rwanda and Uganda.

The main rebel groups signed on in the weeks that followed. But fighting continues, with all sides accusing the other of violations.

Kabila's private life remains largely unknown. He is a deeply secretive man who confides in a tiny circle of friends and relatives. His son Joseph, who was reportedly injured in Tuesday's attempted coup, heads the Congolese Army. *AP*

No breakthrough seen in Mideast peace talks

JERUSALEM—Israeli and Palestinian negotiators said after a round of secretive peace talks they saw no chances for a breakthrough until the weekend deadline, and a US mediator put a planned visit on hold.

Tuesday's talks, held in Jerusalem at an undisclosed location, failed to bridge the gaps on key issues, negotiators said. To top it all, Israel's Prime Minister Ehud Barak flatly dismissed main Palestinian demands in another blow to chances of a quick peace deal.

Barak rejected the Palestinian demand that all Palestinian refugees and their descendants, about 4 million people, be given the right to return to their former homes in Israel.

He also brushed aside the Palestinian insistence on sovereignty over a disputed Jerusalem holy site—the spot where the Al Aqsa Mosque compound was built over the ruins of the biblical Jewish Temples.

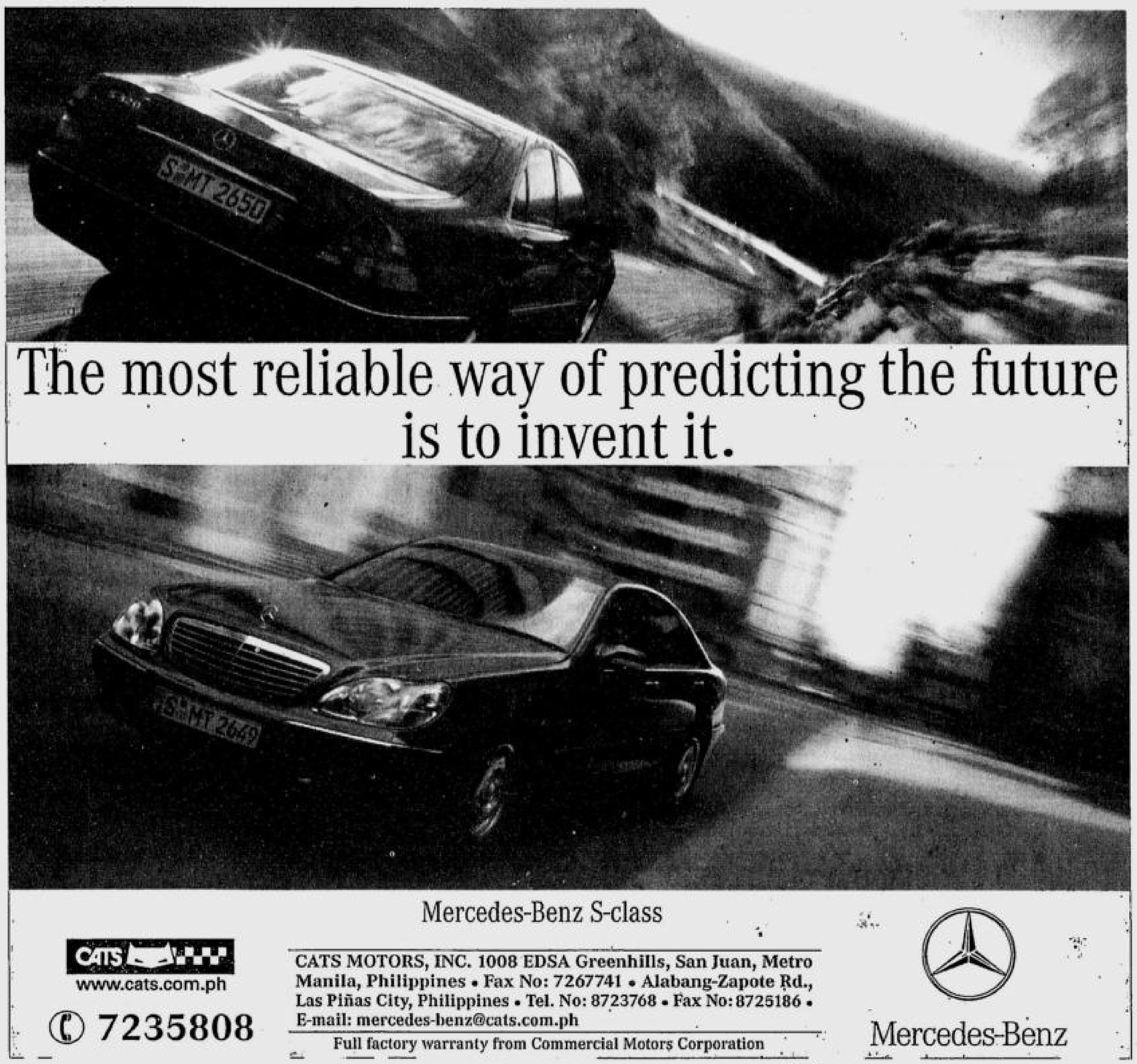
"Peace must not be at any price," Barak said in an election broadcast. "Under no circumstances shall we accept the right of return to Israel and we shall never sign a document transferring sovereignty over the Temple Mount to Palestinians."

But speaking later on Israel television, Barak indicated there was a place for a compromise on Jewish settlements. He said he would only keep "large settlement blocs with 80 percent of settlers" that cover just a small percentage of Palestinian lands.

Israeli media reports said officials within Barak's top-level "Peace Cabinet," including veteran statesman Shimon Peres, demanded after the talks that Barak be more aggressive in seeking a deal. Barak remained pessimistic.

"We've decided that the main focus of the dialogue will be an effort to reduce violence," Barak said. "I do not see many chances for reaching a breakthrough or some important thing in the couple of days left for President Clinton."

The sides sought to produce a joint document outlining a peace accord before US President Bill Clinton leaves office Saturday. In a sign that expectations were indeed low, Clinton administration officials said US mediator Dennis Ross' planned trip to the region was off for now. *AP*



The most reliable way of predicting the future is to invent it.

Mercedes-Benz S-class

CATS
www.cats.com.ph
✆ 7235808

CATS MOTORS, INC. 1008 EDSA Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila, Philippines • Fax No: 7267741 • Alabang-Zapote Rd., Las Piñas City, Philippines • Tel. No: 8723768 • Fax No: 8725186 • E-mail: mercedes-benz@cats.com.ph
Full factory warranty from Commercial Motors Corporation

Mercedes-Benz

ESLG EMILIO S. LIM APPLIANCES

33 years of service now with... 43 Branches to serve you!

BLESSING OF OUR 43rd STORE ROSARIO, CAVITE Branch!

PACKAGE OFFER!

ROSARIO, CAVITE BRANCH
EMPEROR PLAZA MALL
GEN. TRIAS
ROSARIO PROPER
Gate EPZA
MERALCO
SECURITY BANK

PROMO PERIOD
JAN. 18 to JAN. 25, 2001
FOR CASH PURCHASES ONLY!

JVC
VICTOR COMPANY OF JAPAN. LIMITED

PACKAGE 1
BEFORE P19,980
NOW P17990
AV-14FIP
MX-J270V

PACKAGE 2
BEFORE P20,480
NOW P18990
AV-14FIP
MX-J333V

PACKAGE 3
BEFORE P21,480
NOW P19990
AV-20N1P
MX-V588T

PACKAGE 4
BEFORE P25,980
NOW P22990
AV-21F3PX
MX-J333V

ALL PACKAGES with FREE TWO (2) VCD SOFTWARE AND MICROPHONE!

HURRY & VISIT US AT:

1 • ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA - Tel. # 842-5967
2 • ANGELES, CITY PROPER - Tel. # (045) 887-5728/887-5845
3 • ANTIPOLO RIZAL - Tel. # 650-1715/630-5642
4 • APALIT, PAMPANGA - Tel. # (045) 302-6614/879-0037
5 • BALAGTAS, BULACAN - Tel. # (044) 693-3386/693-4288
6 • BALIUAG, BULACAN - Tel. #(044) 673-1593/766-3741
7 • BATANGAS CITY - P. Burgos St. Tel. # (043) 723-5228/723-5393
8 • BINAKAYAN, CAVITE - Bautista Arcade Tel. # (046) 434-5110/434-5120
9 • BIÑAN, LAGUNA - Tel. # (049) 411-1946/ 411-0724
10 • CALAMBA, LAGUNA - Tel. # (049) 545-7787/545-5252
11 • CALOOCAN CITY, SANGANDAAN - Tel. # 287-3477/288-5497/288-5513
12 • CAINTA, ORTIGAS - Tel. # 655-6661/655-6398
13 • CUBAO EDSA, SANTOLAN - Tel. # 725-3030/724-8326
14 • DASMARIÑAS CAVITE I, PALAPALA - Tel. # (046) 973-0498/852-0519
15 • DASMARINAS CAVITE II, CONGRESSIONAL - Tel. # (046) 850-2833/416-5426
16 • FAIRVIEW, QUEZON CITY, COMMONWEALTH - Tel. # 427-5514/427-5845
17 • GEN MARIANO ALVAREZ (GMA), CAVITE - Tel. # (046) 972-0364
18 • IMUS, CAVITE - Tel. # (046) 471-7166/471-7168
19 • KALENTONG, MANDALUYONG CITY - Tel. # 534-5419/534-5420
20 • LAGRO, QUEZON CITY, QUIRINO HI-WAY - Tel. # 417-5618/418-1791
21 • LIPA, BATANGAS - Tel. # (043) 756-5747/757-0978
22 • MAKATI CITY - (Main Office) SEN. GIL PUYAT - Tel. # 843-1287/843-2163/ 844-2308/844-3280/844-2196/729-6218/729-6216 Fax no. 729-6214
23 • MALOLOS,BULACAN - Tel. # (044) 791-3335/662-6030
24 • MARCOS HI-WAY, MARIKINA - Tel. # 645-1543/645-5205
25 • MARIKINA CITY, SUMULONG HI-WAY - Tel. # 948-8510/941-2943/948-3786
26 • MEYCAUAYAN, BULACAN - Tel. # (044) 840-0030/840-0391
27 • MUÑOZ, QUEZON CITY, CONGRESSIONAL - Tel. # 927-4643/453-4796/926-0189
28 • NOVALICHES BAESA, QUEZON CITY - Tel. # 454-0084/330-0164/4539249
29 • NOVALICHES PROPER, QUEZON CITY - Tel. # 930-0809/936-3426
30 • PARAÑAQUE, SAN DIONISIO, QUIRINO AVE. - Tel. # 825-9152/829-1507
31 • PARAÑAQUE, SUCAT - Tel. # 829-1529
32 • PASIG CITY I, VICTORIA THEATER BLDG. - Tel. # 747-7466/642-1676/642-1663
33 • PASIG CITY II, ROTONDA - Tel. # 641-5004/747-3758/916-0166
34 • ROSARIO, CAVITE - Tel. # (046) 438-0885/438-0886
35 • SAMPALOC, ESPAÑA MANILA - Tel. # 743-4924/743-7014
36 • SAN PABLO CITY, LAGUNA - Tel. # (049) 561-1690/561-1691
37 • SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA - Tel. # (045) 963-5872/860-1798
38 • SAN PEDRO, LAGUNA - Tel. # 847-9652/520-1626
39 • STA. MARIA, BULACAN - Tel. # (044) 641-2225/641-3112
40 • STA. ROSA, LAGUNA - Tel. # (049) 534-2335/534-2339
41 • TANAY, RIZAL - Tel. # 693-0326/693-0327
42 • TANAUAN, BATANGAS - # 95 A. Mabini Ave. Tel. # (043) 778-3220/778-3136
43 • TAYTAY, RIZAL - B. A. Cruz St., cor. Rizal Avenue Tel. # 660-5365/660-5611
• E-MAIL ADDRESS: esla@4appliances.com

SERVICE HOTLINE: 729-6216 / 7296218
729-6217 / 729-6145

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM

DAR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER)
NO. 01 :
SERIES OF 2001)

SUBJECT : GUIDELINES GOVERNING THE NON-GENDER BIASED IMPLEMENTATION OF AGRARIAN LAWS

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 7192, otherwise known as "An Act Promoting the Integration of Women as Full and Equal Partners of Men in Development and Nation-building and for Other Purposes", and to ensure that men and women shall have equal access to the benefits of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) and equal shares in the burden and responsibility of attaining the goals thereof, the following guidelines are hereby promulgated:

SECTION 1. *Statement of Objectives* — The twin objectives of these guidelines are as follows:
(a) Strengthen and integrate non-gender biased consciousness of agrarian laws and their implementing guidelines; and
(b) Provide the mechanism for a system monitoring on the implementation of, and compliance with, these guidelines.

SEC. 2. *Issuance of EPs/CLOAs to Legally Married or Common-law Spouses* — (a) The term "legally married spouses" refers to those who were married in accordance with the Civil Code or the Family Code, as the case may be, while the term "common-law spouses" refers to a man and a woman cohabiting exclusively with one another without the benefit of marriage.

(b) Both spouses shall be equally involved in the process of identifying and screening agrarian reform beneficiaries. If one of the spouses is absent, the decision of the present spouse shall be binding upon both of them. A spouse shall be considered absent if he or she leaves the conjugal home without intention of returning. A spouse who has left the conjugal home and has not returned for a continuous period of six (6) months shall be presumed to have left without intention to return.

(c) There shall be no discrimination on account of sex in the process of selecting qualified beneficiaries pursuant to Section 22 of R.A. No. 6657, as implemented by A.O. No. 10, Series of 1990.

(d) In order to protect the rights of both spouses to ownership of the land, the Emancipation Patent/Certificate of Land Ownership Award (EP/CLOA) shall be issued in the name of both of them. For legally married spouses, the phrase "married to" shall be inserted in between their names to indicate not merely their civil status but also conjugal ownership of the awarded land by both spouses. If they are common-law spouses, the EP/CLOA shall be issued in the name of both spouses, with the conjunctive "and" placed in between their names. This rule shall also apply in case of collective CLOAs.

(e) The ownership ceiling for legally married spouses and for common-law spouses shall be three (3) hectares, unless either spouse has established a vested right to receive land separately from his or her partner, in which case, each spouse may be entitled to a maximum of three (3) hectares.

(f) The provisions of the Family Code on the conjugal partnership of gains or absolute community of property between legally married spouses shall suppletorily apply to land awarded to the spouses under CARP.

(g) Land awarded to common-law spouses during their cohabitation shall be suppletorily governed by Articles 147 and 148 of the Family Code, and by the rules on co-ownership provided in Articles 484 to 501 of the Civil Code on all matters not covered by Articles 147 and 148 of the Family Code.

SEC. 3. *Tenurial Rights of Spouses* — (a) The names of both spouses shall appear in leasehold contracts in the manner provided for in Section 2 (d) hereof.

(b) In case of death or permanent incapacity of either spouse, the right to succeed as a lessee under the provisions of Section 9 of R.A. No. 3844 shall apply, regardless of whether the spouses are legally married or are common-law spouses.

(c) In case the spouses disagree on the matter of exercising the lessee's right of pre-emption and redemption, the spouse who wishes to exercise this right may initiate the necessary action to do so, provided that he or she has sufficient exclusive property to pre-empt the sale of the land or redeem the same from the buyer.

(d) The consent of both spouses shall be necessary for a valid surrender of their landholding subject of agricultural leasehold, as provided in Section 8 (2) of R.A. No. 3844.

(e) All rights and obligations of the agricultural lessee in an agricultural leasehold relationship under R.A. No. 3844 shall be exercised jointly and shall be the shared responsibility of both spouses. On the other hand, the rights and obligations of the agricultural lessor under R.A. No. 3844 shall likewise be enjoyed and complied with by both spouses.

SEC 4. *Land Transactions Requiring Consent of Both Spouses* - Regardless of whether the EP/CLOA was registered in the name of both spouses or awarded to only one of them, as long as the award was made during their marriage or cohabitation, the consent of both spouses shall be required for the validity of the following transactions:
(a) The sale, transfer, or conveyance of lands under Section 27 of R.A. No. 6657, where the consenting spouses are the vendors or transferors;
(b) Application for land use conversion pursuant to R.A. No. 6657, as implemented by A.O. No. 1, Series of 1999, where the consenting spouses are the applicants;
(c) Contract of mortgage where the awarded land is used as collateral to secure a loan, where the consenting spouses are the mortgagors; and
(d) All other transactions involving waiver of rights and relinquishment of ownership or possession over lands awarded to ARBs.

In case of death of an ARB, the right to succeed to the ownership of the land shall be governed by the following DAR guidelines insofar as they are not inconsistent herewith: A.O. No. 14, Series of 1988; M.C. No. 5, Series of 1984; and M.C. No. 19, Series of 1978.

SEC. 5. *Participation in Legal Processes and Availment of Support Services* - (a) In cases of mediation/conciliation of agrarian disputes by the Barangay Agrarian Reform Committee (BARC) pursuant to Sections 47 and 53 of R.A. No. 6657 and Section 19 of E.O. No. 229, and the pertinent implementing guidelines, both spouses shall be summoned and shall have the right to attend proceedings thereof. The absence of either of the spouses shall not affect the proceedings, as long as one of the spouses is present. The decision of the spouse present in the mediation/conciliation meeting shall be binding upon both spouses.

(b) Equal access and opportunity shall be accorded to both spouses in pursuing a cause of action which arises from agrarian disputes and matters; in defending themselves in any agrarian case against either or both of them; and in expediting the resolution of agrarian cases to which they are parties, before any administrative tribunal, quasi-judicial body, or court.

(c) The right to join any cooperative or organization whose objective is to advance the common interest of farmer-beneficiaries, landowner-tillers, tenants, and farmworkers, shall be equally available to both spouses. Their individual participation in, and contribution to, such cooperative or organization shall be recognized. If only one spouse is a registered member of a cooperative or organization, the non-member spouse shall be allowed to represent his or her spouse in meetings or sessions of the cooperative or organization, subject to such conditions and limitations as may be provided in the constitution and by-laws of the cooperative or organization.

(d) The rights of both spouses shall be equally considered in availing of support services extended under CARP, without discrimination on account of sex, and subject to conditions and limitations provided under existing guidelines on the matter.

SEC. 6. *Implementation and Monitoring* – (a) The pertinent provisions of General Memorandum Circular No. 01, Series of 1999, on institutionalizing the implementation and operationalization of gender and development (GAD) programs, shall apply. The Regional and Provincial Focal Points shall serve as the implementing and monitoring body to ensure the operationalization of this Administrative Order within their respective levels of authority, in coordination with PBD Coordinating Units.

(b) To integrate the GAD perspective in the reporting system for land acquisition and distribution (LAD), the following shall be observed:
(i) The DAR Provincial Planning Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (PMEU) shall coordinate with the Operations Division in providing the necessary information in accomplishing the Gender-Disaggregated Land Reporting Form (see Annex "A", together with instructions for accomplishing the Form);
(ii) The Regional Planning Division shall review, validate and consolidate the report submitted by the Provincial PMEU and submit the same to the Planning Service not later than the 15th of the month following the end of every quarter; and
(iii) The Planning Service shall consolidate the regional reports for integration with the Department's quarterly, semestral and annual reports as well as with special reports requested by NCRFW, NEDA, DBM and other government agencies.

(c) The features and provisions of this gender-disaggregated LAD reporting format shall be integrated with the computerized information system being maintained and/or designed by the Management Information Service (MIS). When the desired gender-disaggregated LAD data can already be generated from these information systems, the use of Gender-Disaggregated LAD Reporting Form shall cease, and the reporting of this information shall commence to be included in the regular reports being prepared and submitted by the MIS to the Planning Service.

(d) As the designated Secretariat of the National GAD Steering Committee in accordance with GMC No. 01, Series of 1999, the Planning Service shall be responsible for reporting the accomplishments under the gender-disaggregated LAD format during the regular/special meetings of the Steering Committee.

SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause* – This Administrative Order repeals, amends or modifies DAR Memorandum Circular No. 16, Series of 1996, which provides for the clarificatory guidelines on the manner of generating and issuing EPs/CLOAs to ARBs and their spouses, and all orders, circulars or issuance inconsistent herewith.

SEC. 8. *Effectivity* – This Order shall take effect ten (10) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Dillman, Quezon City, January 9, 2001.

HORACIO R. MORALES JR.
Secretary

January 18, 2001 -- Inquirer

Rescuers abandon bid to find quake survivors

SANTA TECLA, El Salvador—Rescuers abandoned a last-ditch attempt to find survivors of El Salvador's killer quake late Tuesday, as the priority became getting food, water and shelter to the tens of thousands of victims who lost it all.

The death toll of 675 from Saturday's killer quake would likely continue to rise, rescuers said, as heavy machinery cleared rubble and landslides, and helicopters reached remote mountainous areas.

At least 2,000 people were believed missing and feared dead. Rescue workers said that it would be a miracle to find survivors amid the destruction.

Red Cross workers making their way slowly through rural areas of the impoverished Central American country discovered more villages destroyed by Saturday's devastating earthquake, suggesting the death toll could rise further.

Just outside the capital, workers spent the day dynamiting massive hillside boulders to prevent them from crashing on the roads.

Several roads, including one major highway, reopened late Tuesday after workers blasted dangerous rocks out of the way.

Alongside the highway, families kept watch of their meager belongings, burning garbage to give them light after sundown as power remained cut off in those areas.

Alone in Las Colinas, a once quiet suburb of Santa Tecla, just outside the capital, rescuers retrieved hundreds of bodies from the devastation wrought by a quake-triggered landslide.

Early Tuesday, the entire area was sealed off as a 30-strong team from Taiwan used sophisticated equipment to detect the slightest sound that would indicate a survivor.

But after three hours, the team left the scene, and other emergency workers and heavy machinery were brought back in to remove tons of earth and debris, and retrieve more bodies.

Once rubble-clearing operations resumed, visiting Nicaraguan President Miguel Aleman toured what he called the "hellish" destruction.

"The magnitude of the disaster is difficult to comprehend," he told journalists.

He said Nicaragua would put helicopters at the disposal of El Salvador's relief efforts even though his own country's resources were limited.,

In Geneva, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) said more than 80 percent of the homes in the villages of Chuiltiupan south of San Salvador, had been destroyed.

"It signifies that many are without shelter and more have disappeared than we currently know about," said IFRC spokesperson Christopher Black.

In Tepecoyo, south of the capital, villagers clamored for food and medicine. Almost every house, most made of adobe and straw, was destroyed in the village, and the only access was by helicopter.

On Tuesday, teams from the US Agency for International Development (USAID) made an aerial survey of the affected areas

"People waved empty jugs, indicating they need water," said Joseph Schultz, of USAID.

As international aid kept pouring in, a 71-strong Franco-German team arrived on Tuesday in a DC 10 carrying aid that included field hospitals and water treatment plants.

In some of the worst affected areas, residents said they had seen none of the foreign aid, but relief officials said it had taken a few days to coordinate the massive operation and to determine which area needed what.

"Things are getting organized, and we are now going from a relief to a recovery effort," said Schultz.

Police said Tuesday that 666 people died and 2,538 were injured in the quake.

Authorities estimated damage at one billion dollars, and said 16,454 buildings were destroyed and 45,694 damaged, while 44,828 people were forced to abandon their homes.

With more than 1,000 aftershocks recorded since Saturday's earthquake, including several significant ones, authorities warned of the risk of further landslides. *AFP*

No problem
A KOO

INDONESIAN students carry a poster mocking President Wahid during a protest at the parliament compound in Jakarta, Jan. 17. Police on Wednesday fired tear gas at about 3,000 students protesting two financial scandals linked to Wahid. REUTERS

Corruption trial of Indonesia central bank governor begins

JAKARTA—The corruption trial opened Wednesday for Indonesia's central bank governor, Sjahril Sabirin, accused of involvement in a political and financial scandal that helped bring down the former president.

The scandal centers around the illegal transfer in 1999 of the equivalent of $80 million from the insolvent Bank Bali to a company closely linked to ex-President B.J. Habibie's then-ruling Golkar Party.

Prosecutors spent most of Wednesday's hearing reading out details of the charges.

They said the funds were siphoned off to finance an election campaign for Habibie, who was later forced to drop out of the race that was won by current head of state Abdurrahman Wahid.

The affair, dubbed "Baligate," prompted Indonesia's international lenders to suspend badly needed loans to the crisis-ridden country.

Sabirin was put under house arrest in June after he was named a leading suspect in the scandal. In December he was released by Attorney General Marzuki Darusman who said he could not extend the arrest without further evidence of the governor's involvement in the scandal.

Sabirin, who was accused of facilitating the transfer of funds, has vehemently denied any wrongdoing.

He could face a maximum of 20 years in prison if convicted.

Several high-profile suspects in the scandal have recently been acquitted on charges of involvement in the affair.

In November five executives at Bank Indonesia resigned, saying they no longer had the support of the Cabinet and parliament.

The mess at the central bank has been the source of a major political wrangle between Wahid and opponents who want him to step down.

Wahid has been demanding for months that Sabirin be replaced, but the governor has steadfastly refused to go. He claims that the nation's Parliament cannot dismiss him unless he is convicted of a criminal offense. *AP*

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Thursday, January 18, 2000
2nd Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: **Heb 7:25—8:6**
Gospel: **Mk 3:7-12**

Jesus and his disciples withdrew to the lakeside and a large crowd from Galilee followed him. A great number of people also came from Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, Transjordan and from the region of Tyre and Sidon, for they had heard of all that he was doing.

Because of the crowd, Jesus told his disciples to have a boat ready for him, to prevent the people from crushing him. He healed so many that all who had diseases kept pressing towards him to touch him. Even the people who had evil spirits, whenever they saw him, would fall down before him and cry out, "You are the Son of God."

But he warned them sternly not to tell anyone who he was.

Commentary

Clever propagandists are experts in crowd control and crowd evasion. They are experts in mobilizing, and experts in getting away when necessary. Look at state leaders who manage to dodge nosy mediamen by slipping into a getaway car which suddenly materializes from nowhere as if on cue. Today's gospel tells us how Jesus instructed his disciples to prepare a getaway boat for him "so that the crowd wouldn't crush him." This is an important lesson especially for people who get so involved that they allow the work to crush them. It is important to know when to get away from it all so as to remain in one piece.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., U.P. Village, Diliman, Quezon City, U.P. P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cnl.net; Website: http://www.cnl.net/claret

Clinton's 'suspicious' lesion was skin cancer

WASHINGTON—The growth removed from President Bill Clinton's back last week has tested positive for skin cancer, the White House said Tuesday.

White House press secretary Jake Siewert said pathology results confirmed the diagnosis of basal cell carcinoma. The flat lesion was discovered at a Jan. 12 physical examination.

"This is a relatively common form of skin cancer, 800,000 to 1 million cases a year," Siewert said. "The lesion was removed, so while the president, it can be said, had skin cancer, that has been removed and he no longer has it."

When doctors removed the lesion, the tissue around it also was treated with a "scraping and burning" technique, a common procedure, Siewert said.

He said pathologists noted that the entire lesion was removed and that the possibility of recurrence is low.

Clinton will have a follow-up visit with the dermatologist in six months, Siewert said.

"If there's no evidence of new lesions at that time, it will be followed up on an annual basis," he said.

After the exam, Dr. David Corbett, retired chair of the hospital's dermatology department, said Clinton has had "sun-damage spots" before, but this is the first time such spots raised suspicions of skin cancer.

Basal cell carcinoma is the most curable form of skin cancer. It is a slow-growing cancer usually confined to the surface of skin—and thus doctors almost always can remove it all with a shallow incision.

The sun-caused tumors usually begin as a small, waxlike nodule on the skin, sometimes looking like pearly white scars. They also can form scabs that alternately bleed and heal.

Besides the skin cancer and a slightly elevated cholesterol level, doctors pronounced Clinton in good health as he prepares to leave the White House Saturday. *AP*

Tests disclose mad cow disease spreading in EU

BRUSSELS—The European Union appealed to consumers Tuesday not to panic as new cases discovered recently show the deadly mad cow disease may be more widespread in Europe than previously believed.

In the past few days, suspected cases of bovine spongiform encephalopathy have been uncovered in Austria's alpine pastures and the Atlantic coast of Spain, from Bavaria to Belgium, and in an Italian slaughterhouse that supplies beef for McDonald's hamburgers.

The European Union's head office is pleading for calm, saying the discovery of new cases is a result of the expanded testing program it ordered the 15 EU nations to launch on New Year's Day.

"The results should be no surprise for us," said Beate Gminder, spokesperson for the European Commission, the EU executive body. "Everybody has to be vigilant in protecting the consumer (but) there is no reason to create fear among people."

However, Europe's public health authorities appear trapped in a vicious circle: Expanded testing has turned up alarming evidence that the deadly ailment has spread across the continent into areas once considered immune.

If confirmed, the suspected case in Austria's Tyrol province would be a first in the country. Italy had been clear since two infected cows imported from Britain were found in 1994. Five confirmed cases have been found in Spain since October. Belgium reported two new cases Monday, bringing the national total to 21.

Germany, long proud of its safe record, was shocked by a first case in November. Since then wider testing has uncovered over a dozen infected animals.

EU officials stress the "second mad-cow crisis," which began in France in October and quickly spread to Germany and other EU nations; remains on a much smaller scale to the epidemic which swept through British herds in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Britain "has seen a total of 180,000 cases, while in (the rest of) Europe we have seen around 1,300 since the beginning of the disease," Gminder stressed. "There is no way you can compare the situation."

Nevertheless, many Europeans fear contracting the fatal, brain-wasting Creutzfeld-Jakobs disease from eating infected meat. In three months, beef sales have tumbled by 27 percent across the EU. *AP*

Burma rebel twins may be granted asylum in Thailand

TWIN brothers Luther (right) and Johnny, leaders of the Karen rebel movement known as God's Army, in combo picture taken at a Thai border police outpost Jan. 17. REUTERS

SUAN PHUNG, Thailand—Thailand will consider giving humanitarian asylum to Johnny and Luther Htoo, the twin boy leaders of a mystical rebel movement from Burma who have surrendered with some of their followers, an official said Wednesday.

Fourteen members of the God's Army group—nine of them children, including the charismatic twins—turned themselves over to Thai authorities on Tuesday after a year on the run along the Thai-Burma border.

For more than three years, the boys had fought to overthrow Burma's military government, and their followers believe Johnny and Luther have magical powers that make them invincible in battle. The boys once claimed to have several hundred followers.

Last year, the Htoo twins became icons for youthful rebellions around the world after the widespread circulation of Associated Press photograph showed the angelic-looking, long-haired Johnny posing next to his tougher-looking, cigarette-puffing brother, Luther. The boys claimed to be 12 when the picture was taken in December 1999.

"We learned that the reason for their surrender is a lack of supplies and food, and also because they are under pressure from both Myanmar an Thai forces," said Komes Daengthongdee, the governor of Ratchaburi province, where the group surrendered.

"If they ran away from fighting, they will be considered for temporary asylum in Thailand. But if they entered illegally, they will be charged with illegal entry and pushed back," Komes said at a news conference with the twins and 10 other members of the group. None of the God's Army members spoke to reporters.

Komes didn't say how long such asylum would last, and there was no immediate comment from Burma's military regime about the God's Army surrender or the possibility of asylum. But Komes said Burma had not asked for the extradition of the God's Army leaders and members. *AP*

A CALL TO ACTION

It is with utter disgust that we, the academic community of St. Scholastica's College, view the suppression of important evidence in the impeachment proceedings of January 16, 2001. The pretense of impartial justice by the eleven senators who voted not to open the Equitable PCIBank envelope has finally come out. We condemn their vote because it is a blatant denial of truth.

We commend the ten senators who voted to open the Equitable PCIBank envelope. We praise Senate President Aquilino Pimentel for his act of statesmanship and his courage to stand for his principle. These are truly the senators representing the interest of the Filipino people.

We pray for the Chief Justice Hilario Davide that he may lead the impeachment court to arrive at a just decision.

These are challenging and decisive times. Let our voices be heard. We must be involved. Let us join hands in prayer and action for the future of our nation. We urge all patriotic Filipinos to participate in all forms of legitimate action in a civic society. It is time to show our utter outrage and indignation for this day of infamy and collective shame.

The Academic Community of
ST. SCHOLASTICA'S COLLEGE

ADVT.

HONDA
The Prestigious
ALL YOURS!
FREE
• 1 Year Comprehensive Insurance
• LTO Registration
• Exciting Freebies
City
ALL YOURS PRICE
P489,000 GL M/T
NO EXTRA COST!
All-in!
CHECK OUT THE ALL-YOURS, ALL-IN DEALS FOR THE...
HR-V
CR-V
ACCORD
Plus Cash Incentives
SO HURRY!
Until Jan.31,2001 only!
All regular models are included in the promo.
Excludes CR-V special edition variants.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No.3572 Series of 2000

For details, call or visit any of the following Honda dealerships nationwide
Honda Cars Makati, Inc. Magallanes Commercial Center, Makati City Tel. Nos.: 852-4181 to 82 Fax: 852-1156
Honda Cars Kalookan, Inc. 506 EDSA, Balintawak, Kalookan City Tel. Nos.: 366-5701 to 24 Fax: 361-8446
Honda Cars Quezon City, Inc. 141 Quezon Ave., Quezon City Tel. Nos.: 712-6650 to 61 Fax: 732-6559
Honda Cars Pasig E. Rodriguez Ave. cor. Calle Industria, Libis, Quezon City Tel. Nos.: 634-2730 to 34 Fax: 637-2982
Honda Cars Alabang Madrigal Business Center, Alabang-Zapote Road cor. Investment Drive, Alabang, Muntinlupa Tel. Nos.: 807-7704, 807-7978; 809-4560 Fax: 800-5052
Honda Cars Manila Paz M. Guanzon Ave. cor. Quirino Ave., Metro Manila Tel. Nos.: 562-4546 to 52 Fax: 562-4549 loc. 130
Honda Cars Shaw Shaw Blvd. cor. Pilar St., Mandaluyong City Tel. Nos.: 717-1681 to 85 Fax: 725-7673
www.hondaphil.com

Honda Cars Pangasinan, Inc. San Miguel, Calasiao, Pangasinan Tel. Nos.: (075) 522-1489 to 89 Fax: (075) 522-1490
Honda Cars Cebu, Inc. Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City Tel. Nos.: (032) 231-3502 to 08 Fax: (032) 231-4468
Honda Cars San Pablo, Inc. Brgy. San Nicolas, San Pablo City, Laguna Tel. Nos.: (049) 562-7713 to 14 Fax: (049) 562-7712
Honda Cars Davao, Inc. Cabaguio Ave., Davao City Tel. Nos.: (082) 221-7406 to 07; 221-7042, 221-4129 Fax: (082) 221-7407; 222-2171
Honda Cars Negros Occidental cor. Hacienda Jose Maria Talisay, National Highway, Talisay Negros Occidental Tel. Nos.: (034) 441-1271 to 75 Fax: (034) 441-1276
Honda Cars Cagayan Zone 1, Lower Bulua, National Highway, Cagayan de Oro City Tel. Nos.: (088) 858-4010 to 12; (08822) 737-635, 737-045 Fax: (088) 858-4015
Honda Cars Pampanga, Inc. Brgy. San Agustin, McArthur Highway, San Fernando, Pampanga Tel. Nos.: (045) 963-5554, 963-5119, 963-5556 Fax: (045) 963-5554
Honda Cars Tarlac, Inc. Brgy. Sta. Cruz, McArthur Highway, Tarlac, Tarlac Tel. Nos.: (045) 982-6002 to 06 Fax: (045) 982-6007
Honda Cars General Santos, Inc. Jose Catolico Ave., Lagao, Gen. Santos City Tel. Nos.: (083) 553-9796 to 97; 301-3108 to 09 Fax: (083) 553-9797
HONDA

Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

ATO covering up plane crash in Davao, say victims' relatives

DAVAO CITY—United States-based lawyers representing relatives of the victims of the crash of an Air Philippines jet said the plane's Flight Data Recorder (FDR) was not destroyed in the tragedy, contrary to earlier claims made by the Air Transport Office (ATO).

The ill-fated plane's maintenance records obtained from the ATO by one of the relatives of the crash victims also contained a missing page that may have yielded important facts that could determine the cause of the tragedy.

The Flight 541 Group Association, an organization formed by the crash victim's relatives, aired suspicions that these developments could indicate that there were plans to mislead investigators and cover up the real cause of the crash.

The plane crashed on a coconut grove on a hill in the Island Garden City of Samal, killing all of its 138 passengers and crew on April 19 last year.

US lawyer Donald Nolan, president of the Chicago-based Nolan Law Group, said the US National Transportation and Safety Board (NTSB) has not made an official report yet on its analysis of the FDR and the Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR) of the ill-fated Air Philippines Boeing 737-200 plane.

The FDR, a device that records the condition of the aircraft and maneuverings made by the pilots, and the CVR, which recorded the conversations at the cockpit, were sent to the NTSB headquarters in Washington D.C. a few days after their recovery from the crash site.

But ATO chief Jacinto Ortega in September last year claimed that the contents of the FDR could no longer be analyzed by the NTSB as it was badly burned and damaged during the crash.

ATO officials here declined to comment on the US lawyers' information.

Nolan said they have already requested the NTSB to turn over to them whatever findings it got from the FDR and CVR.

"We want to have our experts analyze whatever information is in there (FDR and CVR)—whether it's full and complete and partial so we can re-construct the events of this occurrence (the crash)," Nolan, in a press conference at the Davao International Airport (DIA) here Sunday, said.

The US lawyers had also asked an investigation team formed by Malacañang and led by Air Force Ret. General William Hotchkiss to hand them over whatever findings they had in the investigation.

Hotchkiss' team has yet to release an official report on the cause of the crash.

North Cotabato Gov. Emmanuel Piñol, who lost a sister-in-law and a nephew in the plane crash, expressed suspicions that there are efforts to cover up the real cause of the crash.

Piñol said the ill-fated plane's maintenance logbook that he had secured from the ATO, through President Estrada's intervention, had a missing page.

He said he sent the logbook to their lawyers in the United States for analysis by crash investigators but was told that there was a missing page. "That missing page might contain vital information that could explain the cause of the crash," Piñol said.

Manuel Ribbeck, a partner in the Nolan law group, said initial findings made by their experts showed that the documents indicated various entries that relate to a malfunction of the plane's flight instruments a few days before the crash.

"We are investigating each one of those write-ups in the maintenance log as a potential cause or contributing factors (to) the crash," he said. *Jowel Canuday, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Captured reb to turn witness vs Joma

CAMP MELCHOR DE LA CRUZ, Isabela—Army officials here would present a female New People's Army rebel as a state witness against communist leaders Jose Ma. Sison and Luis Jalandoni and 10 rebels for the ambush of an Army brigade commander and 12 of his men in Jones town last year.

Maj. Gen. Rodolfo Garcia, 5th Infantry Division commander, said Sheryll Arcilla, alias Ka Andrea, would be dropped from the charge sheet once she turns state witness.

NPA rebels killed Col. Josefino Manayao, 502nd Infantry Brigade commander, and 12 other soldiers in an ambush near the boundary of Barangays Linomot and Sta. Isabel in Jones in June last year.

Manayao and his men were on their way home after they conducted a medical mission in Jones.

Arcilla, who was captured by pursuing soldiers, admitted that she was among the 31 rebels who ambushed Manayao's group. She was a Polytechnic University of the Philippines student before she joined the NPA, Army reports said.

"Her criminal liabilities will be waived. Her culpability will no longer be there," Garcia said, adding that the pending multiple murder case before an Ilagan court will make Sison and his men liable for "the dastardly act."

Aside from Sison and Jalandoni, who are both based in The Netherlands, those charged with multiple murder were Wilfredo Valencia alias Ka Ikoy, Remedios Dauag, Romeo Cudal, Edgar Abad, Freddie Ruiz, Lourdes Mahanag, Augusto Padilla, Joseph Centeno, Bonifacio Acosta and Mylene Fernandez, all members of the NPA's Benito Tesorio Front operating in the towns of Jones, San Agustin and San Guillermo.

Sison is founding chair of the Communist Party of the Philippines while Jalandoni is a member of the executive committee and spokesperson of the National Democratic Front.

Garcia said the military would also drop the illegal possession of firearms charge filed against Arcilla before the regional trial court in Echague town if she agrees to turn state witness.

"Sheryll is too young to be charged before the court and her future may be brighter if she would continue her studies later," Garcia said.

He said Arcilla had agreed to testify against her former colleagues in the underground movement.

Later, Arcilla told the INQUIRER that she would only tell what she knew about the ambush plan. "Anyway, I will (say) only what I know. Probably, my former colleagues will spare me (from threats) when I will testify later," she said in Filipino.

Garcia said Arcilla would be provided with security to protect her from possible retaliation from the NPA. *Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

DONNA DEPOSITARIO

THIS 52-foot sperm whale greeted residents of Barangay Canaway, General Nakar in Quezon province and left them baffled.

52-foot sperm whale dies in seaside village

By Donna Depositario

BARANGAY CANAWAY, Quezon—Residents of this village were baffled by the sight of a sperm whale on their shores recently.

The whale, measuring 52 feet long and 10 feet wide, was beached here, a village in General Nakar, Quezon.

When the sperm whale was beached on the shore, the mammal was still alive and breathing. A concerned staff member of the office of the mayor of General Nakar town immediately notified personnel of the Museum of Natural History (MNH) in UP Los Baños.

MNH Director Augusto Sumalde sent a team composed of Orlando Eusebio, Edison Cosico, Eduardo Eres and Rafael Tandang.

To reach the site, the team had to walk a total of 90 kilometers and cross 10 rivers and five creeks which took the team a total of 12 hours.

Before reaching Barangay Canaway, General Nakar, Quezon, the team had to traverse six villages—Barangays Pamplona, Katablingan, Magsikap, San Marcelino, Sablang, and Maligaya.

Unfortunately, the team failed to reach the sperm whale alive. The whale died of unknown reasons.

Sperm whales are often sighted in Cebu, Pamilacan, Siquijor, Batanes, southwestern Mindanao, Palawan, the Davao Gulf, Albay, Zambales, Bohol and Camiguin.

The stranding of the whale in this village is a new record, according to Jun Lit, a member of the staff of the MNH.

The MNH team said the whale stranded in Barangay Canaway was a male. Male sperm whales reach 40-60 feet long while females grow to 25-40 feet long.

The sperm whale has been declared an endangered species.

There are roughly a million sperm whales still alive in the world.

While the estimated number of sperm whales may be large compared with the number of other kinds of whales, sperm whales are divided into subgroups whose populations are deemed to be dwindling, according to Lit.

Mayor probed on gun used to shoot hostage taker

CEBU CITY—Mayor James Arnold Abines of Santander is facing investigation for shooting and wounding a hostage taker on Jan. 14 in a bid to rescue the suspect's nine-year-old victim.

Senior Supt. Jose Antonio Salvacion, Cebu provincial police director, said they would determine if the .45 cal. pistol used by Abines in the shooting was licensed.

The mayor, he added, would be charged with illegal possession of firearms if records at the Firearms and Explosives Division in Camp Crame would show that the gun was unlicensed.

Salvacion said the investigators will also coordinate with the Commission on Elections to determine if the mayor was authorized to carry firearms during the election period.

The Comelec has imposed a gun ban effective Jan. 2 at the start of the filing of certificates of candidacy.

Salvacion said the Comelec would file charges against Abines if there was a violation of the ban.

Abines, however, insisted that the firearm was licensed and that he had applied for an exemption to the gun ban with the Comelec.

Marshal Rubia, Comelec acting assistant regional director, said he has not received any copy of Abines' application for exemption.

The application, he added, may have been sent directly to the Comelec's Committee on Firearms and Security personnel in Manila.

Still, Rubia said he told Lito Arquillano, Santander Comelec officer, to submit a report on the incident. "Based on the report, we might be able to conduct a preliminary investigation," he said.

The mayor shot and wounded Jeffrey Acero, 29, who took hostage and stabbed a boy in Barangay Liloan, Santander, 134.4 kilometers south of Cebu City.

Acero and the boy were brought to Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental where they were confined in separate hospitals.

Abines said he was attending a party in Barangay Poblacion in Santander when he was informed of a hostage drama in Barangay Liloan, about two kilometers away.

He went to the police station but only one policeman was around. It was then he decided to take matters into his own hands.

Abines told the INQUIRER that he went home, got his firearm and went to Barangay Liloan to confront the hostage taker.

He said he tried to negotiate for the release of the boy. But Acero stabbed the boy and then raised his knife in a gesture that Abines perceived to be another attempt to stab the boy.

Abines said he had no choice but to shoot the suspect. "He stabbed the child and was about to stab him again so I shot him," he said.

But some residents in Barangay Liloan earlier claimed that Acero had already released the boy after stabbing him when Abines shot him in the shoulder.

Salvacion, however, said nobody in the village was willing to execute a statement on the incident.

The Santander police headed by Insp. Silvino Balbuena would have to explain why only one policeman was manning the station at the time of the incident, he said.

It was learned that SPO3 Dionisio Jakosalem was at the Santander police when the hostage alarm was received. But he could not leave because he was also the station's jailer and radio operator.

Salvacion said SPO3 Egmedio Miramon and SPO1 Albaster Buscato were on duty on Sunday but were not in the police station.

Miramon later arrived at the scene but the shooting was over, he added. *Jhunnex Napallacan and Piedad Gonzalez with reports from Alex Pal, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Fund lack endangers May 14 polls

NAGA CITY—The absence of funds has put the May 14 elections in danger, an election official said here.

Jaime Pantorgo, Comelec officer here, said no funds have so far been released for election-related preparations.

Pantorgo said the election period started on Jan. 2 but the Comelec has no funds for preparations which should have started in December.

Among the problems confronting the Comelec is the lack of funds for the reproduction of election documents.

Among the documents the Comelec has to prepare are lists of voters, precincts and candidates. *Juan Escandor, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Air Force official stops use of Clark as dump

By Jun Malig

PDI Central Luzon Desk

CROW VALLEY, Capas, Tarlac—The commander of the 600th Air Base Wing based in Clark Field has ordered his men to prevent the dumping of Metro Manila garbage in an area here used for military aircraft assault exercises.

Col. Edgar Calvo personally assisted some reporters covering Clark Field on board a Philippine Air Force rescue helicopter to show that the area is not suitable as a garbage dump.

"If they dump thousands of tons of garbage here, rain-induced river flow would carry the garbage downstream to other parts of Tarlac," Calvo said, while pointing to the several kilometers-long stretch of this valley.

Calvo said he has never received any notice or instruction from Malacañang and the Armed Forces to allow the dumping of Metro Manila trash here.

"I just read it in the newspaper. We haye not received any order or instruction. That is why I have ordered the field personnel of the 600th Air Base Wing here to stop any dump truck from dumping garbage here," he said.

He said if he would be notified by Executive Secretary Edgardo Angara of Malacañang's plan to dump Metro Manila's garbage in this valley, he would have to consult with Air Force chief Maj. Gen. Benjamin Defensor about it.

Angara earlier said Crow Valley, located in the sub-zone area of the Clark Special Economic Zone, seemed to be the best alternative dump for Metro Manila's garbage after local officials and residents of Antique and Aklan strongly opposed the dumping of garbage on Semirara Island.

Calvo said the notion that Crow Valley is a suitable dump because it has already been bombed repeatedly by both the US and Philippine air forces, is not accurate.

He said only about a 40-square-meter area of the valley is used for aircraft rocket target exercises.

"The precise target point is much less," he said.

Crow Valley is under the jurisdiction of the Philippine Air Force, which has been occupying several hectares of Clark Field under its memorandum of agreement with the Bases Conversion Development Authority.

A squadron of the PAF under the 600th ABW is stationed there.

Calvo said they do not have to stop garbage-loaded dump trucks from entering Crow Valley.

"As you can see, the road accessible to large vehicles like dump trucks is several kilometers from here. Only small vehicles can (use) the roads leading to Crow Valley," he said.

Calvo said there are about 1,500 families living in Crow Valley, most of them rendered homeless by lahar.

He said even the Air Force City in Clark Field, a complex with several office buildings and at least 150 households, has its own garbage problem.

Maj. Allan Ballesteros, civil military operations officer of the 600th ABW, said they address Air Force City's garbage problem by asking people to segregate trash.

He said next month, the 600th ABW will compel all households under its jurisdiction to segregate biodegradable from non-biodegradable materials.

"We will implement this strictly. Those who would be found violating (the) garbage segregation (rule) would be given demerits for every violation they commit. If they continue to disobey the directive, they will be ejected from their houses," Ballesteros said.

In Nueva Ecija, Gov. Tomas Joson III has ordered Gapan town officials to stop the dumping of Metro Manila garbage in Barangay Macabaklay following reports that truckloads of garbage were sneaked in a dump there.

Joson, in a memorandum, asked Gapan Mayor Arthur Velayo to order the town's police to impound the vehicles bringing in garbage to Gapan from other places and to charge the drivers of the impounded vehicles.

This came in the wake of reports that Metro Manila garbage was brought to Nueva Ecija and dumped in Barangay Macabaklay, some 15 km from the town proper.

Joson, in a radio interview, said the dumping of garbage in Macabaklay is illegal because it has no official permit.

He said Malacañang earlier advised him on the possibility of developing a dump in any place in Nueva Ecija.

But Joson said talks between his office and Malacañang officials were not finalized. *With a report from Anselmo Roque, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Businessmen back 'People Power'

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

BUSINESS leaders yesterday denounced as "a grave injustice" the decision of the Senate impeachment court on Tuesday night as they renewed their call for President Estrada to step down

"The repercussions of last night's decision will be felt most deeply by the poor and the jobless, as prices rise, investments fall, and jobs disappear," the Makati Business Club and eight other business groups said in a joint statement.

"The 11 senator-judges, together with the President, have lost all authority to hold office. We ask them and all Cabinet members who value truth and justice to immediately relinquish their posts and allow the constitutional process of change to take place so that we can begin to rebuild the nation," the statement added.

"To ignore this call will be to accept responsibility for the ruin that will visit the nation—socially, politically and economically."

The statement was also signed by the Management Association of the Philippines, Bishops-Businessmen's Conference, Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines, Investment Houses Association of the Philippines, Philippine Computer Society, Information Technology Foundation of the Philippines, Chamber of Real Estate and Builders Associations and Philippine Marketing Association.

Ramon del Rosario Jr., vice chair of the Makati Business Club, said the business community was prepared to take more "concrete action" to intensify the pressure on the President to resign to stop the economy from slipping into a recession.

Del Rosario said the business community would take their cue from former President Corazon Aquino and Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin who have called for a show of people power.

"We have agreed to take a liberal attitude to our employees who want to take part in these activities at Edsa by allowing them to go on official leave," he said.

Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, Ayala Corp. chair, said the Senate court's decision set back efforts to rebuild international confidence in the country.

Federation of Philippine Industries chair Raul T. Concepcion could not hold back his tears during the press conference.

"I was really affected by what happened Tuesday night especially when all of my children went to Edsa to express their disgust and join the other protesters. I have never tried to influence their views but I must say this has the beginning of another Edsa revolution," Concepcion said.

Ricardo Pascua, president of the Management Association of the Philippines, said "everybody has to do their bit in creating an environment that will not be embarrassing when we pass it on to our children."

Del Rosario said it was unfair for the Estrada administration to blame the business group for causing the economy's problems.

"The problems of the economy have everything to do with the lack of confidence on the President and those problems will be resolved only if leadership is resolved by his resignation," he said.

Augusto Lagman, president of the Philippine Computer Society, said that the sharp fall of the peso and the stock market yesterday was a direct effect of investors' condemnation of the mockery at the Senate impeachment trial.

Del Rosario said the impeachment trial looked credible during the early stages.

"But the mood has changed since Tuesday night and the only way we can solve the problem is for him (President Estrada) to resign."

Gloria bares plot to install junta

ACCUSATIONS of conspiracy and coup plots flew yesterday.

Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo warned there was a plot to install a "civilian-military junta" to seize power amid anger at the Senate decision that many say virtually acquitted President Estrada of the impeachment charges against him.

"I also warn those plotting a civilian-military junta to take over the reins of government that the people will certainly oppose this and expose this," she said.

"The people will hound you and you will bear the brunt of their collective indignation," she said, without saying who the plotters were.

"Should violence erupt because of the President's militant stand, the bloodshed will be on his very doorstep," Arroyo warned Mr. Estrada.

Sen. Franklin Drilon, said "I shudder at the thought of a military intervention" in the face of renewed street protests. "I am warning (Malacañang) not to engage in trouble-making at the protest rallies" in order to justify such a take-over, he said.

AFP

All for Jesus, the High Priest, through Mary and Joseph

National Council

MOTHER BUTLER MISSION GUILDS

MBMG Center
2002 Jesus St., Pandacan, Manila
Tel/Fax: 561-9806

A CALL TO PRAYER

On the occasion of the Mother Butler Mission Guilds' first National Council meeting for the year 2001, we reflected on the role and relevance of MBMG in the light of the present national crisis. The National Officers and Chapter Presidents, together with the Advisory Board, came to a consensus on the current issues, and thus assert:

We condemn immorality, especially when flaunted shamelessly, particularly so when flagrantly violative of the dignity of women, as we pray for the renewal of commitment to the teachings of our Christian faith.

We condemn graft and corruption, especially when done so brazenly and in such obscene magnitude as to endanger the country's stability, as we pray for the strengthening of social responsibility and public accountability.

We condemn the culture of gambling, especially when it exploits the poor, as we pray for the upholding of human dignity in the pursuit of economic advancement through industry and hard work.

We condemn the flagrant violation of our country's laws, especially when done to manipulate and to give undue advantage to a favored few, as we pray for the restoration of the basic values of honesty, integrity and service.

Above premises wherefore considered, we shall move for the celebration of Holy Masses simultaneously on February 3, the first Saturday of the month, in the various parishes under our 54 Chapters with 3500 members all over the Philippines and share these reflections with our fellow Filipinos, as together we pray for peace and unity in our country, for the triumph of truth and justice, and for the enlightenment of those who have to make difficult decisions - these we ask in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, with the intercession of Mary, His mother and our Patroness.

Ma. Lourde P. Albert
Ma. Lourdes P. Albert
National President

Ma. Paz S. Henson
National Vice-President

Estrellita Tocao-Santos
Estrellita Tocao-Santos
National Vice-President

Anastasia T. Yam
National Treasurer

Advisory Board:

Rorie L. Buenaseda
Rorie L. Buenaseda

Sonia S. Gempesaw

Rosie O. Valencia
Rosie O. Valencia

Attested to:

Patria Q. Bernad
Patria Q. Bernad
National Secretary

We thank the many donors who shared our views and made this publication possible.

ADVT.

Davide says impeachment trial not yet over

By Rocky Nazareno
and Andrea T. Echavez

PRESIDING Officer Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. yesterday stressed that the impeachment trial is not yet over, but admitted that the court could only resume the trial when the House of Representatives submits a list of replacement for the House prosecutors who resigned.

Davide urged the House leadership to give "utmost priority" to the submission of the new list of prosecutors "because it is of constitutional transcendental importance" that the trial resumes.

"The House must exercise sound judgment because this is a constitutionally transcendental issue that is of utmost solemnity," said Davide, who admitted that the last three days had been "very emotionally charged" for him.

It was the first time that Davide, named Filipino of the Year by the INQUIRER, granted an interview to media since the trial began on Dec. 7.

He said the House leadership must call a "special meeting of members" to pass a resolution that would act on the withdrawal of the previous prosecutors and come up with the names of the new public prosecutors.

No deadline has been set for the House to transmit such resolution, but Davide noted that "there should be a way of expediting it."

Davide has been nursing a cold for the past two weeks and not a few noticed that he read the prosecution panel's letter withdrawing from the trial with a hoarse and quivering voice.

He said he was "affected by reading the withdrawal."

He said he has been having only four- to five-hour sleep on a regular workday that starts at 5:30 a.m. and ends at 11 p.m.

He supplements his diet with "plenty of vitamins" to keep up with the six-hour trials.

"But (the colds) are no problem. We are fit and prepared for this job," he said.

Davide also said he could not speculate on the outcome of the political crisis in the House that could prevent it from immediately transmitting the resolution that would act on the withdrawal of the previous prosecutors and name their replacements.

Davide said the adjournment of both Houses of Congress "will not affect the impeachment trial."

He said the trial can even continue "whether or not both Houses are not in session."

"The next Congress can even revive it," he said.

But he admitted that should a new House and Senate be tasked to handle the impeachment trial, "by then . . . you have new members (and) the political complexion would really be different."

Davide, who could not hide his frustration that the impeachment trial which is the first in the Philippines and Asia has hit a major snag, said he had relished the job of presiding officer as "most challenging."

He prepared well for the trial and had read four volumes of the Clinton impeachment proceedings weeks before the impeachment trial began.

"Since then, I have had to merely refer to all these knowledge when the impeachment trial (of Mr. Estrada) began," Davide said.

Militants, however, blamed Davide for the breakdown of the impeachment proceedings, saying he "did a Pontius Pilate" when he refused to assert his own ruling on the opening of sealed documents said to contain evidence on Mr. Estrada's P3.3 billion secret account.

"Honestly, we are very disappointed with Davide . . . He had cold feet. He should have been consistent. There should have been no other ruling but to open it," said Teodoro Casiño, secretary general of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan.

Had Davide been consistent with his earlier ruling where he allowed the opening of the first set of sealed envelope, Casiño said the Chief Justice could have been instrumental in the delivery of justice against Mr. Estrada.

He said the act of Davide in effectively "washing his hands" in the impeachment trial was a clear indication of his bias in favor of the President.

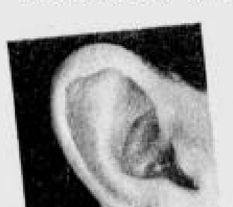
The Integrated Bar of the Philippines also put blame on Davide.

Better Hearing Care At Sountex

Getting a new hearing aid is an important step towards improving your quality of life. Compare before you buy and experience the Sountex difference.

Total Customer Focus Hearing Care Approach
Our competent, friendly and caring consultants will provide
- FREE "no obligation" hearing tests
- FREE lifetime service guarantee
- FREE battery replacements with every regular service*

Premier Quality Products by World Market Leader Siemens
- We sell hearing aids exclusively from Siemens, the world's leading manufacturer with 90 years of experience.
- Our almost invisible hearing aids, available in many digital and programmable models, give crystal clear CD sound quality.
- Each hearing aid is individually fitted and programmed to match your very personal hearing profile using our fully computerized Siemens Unity™ and Connexx™ testing systems.



"invisible" hearing aid from Sountex

DON'T FORGET TO ASK ABOUT OUR
- **P1,000** discount off purchase price
- FREE batteries for life*
- Installment and **TRADE-IN DISCOUNT** of up to **P5,000** available to qualified customers

(Promo period Nov. 9 - Feb. 9, 2001)
*For every 6 mos. of regular check-up & cleaning of hearing aids at Sountex offices

CALL FOR A FREE HEARING TEST TODAY!
Alabang : 807-1920
Makati : 867-1916
Robinsons : 635-9033

SOUNtex
THE HEARING CARE PROFESSIONALS

www.sountex.com.sg
CENTRES ARE LOCATED IN HONG KONG, THE PHILIPPINES AND SINGAPORE

PER DTI - NCR PERMIT NO. 3120 SERIES OF 2000

‘Constitutional crisis’

(From page A1)

constitutional crisis will be the consequence," he said.

With its record of being unable to come up with a quorum, the

House will be hard-pressed to pass the budget and other vital bills like the power bill and to come up with a new set of House prosecutors.

"You have a prosecution team that was elected but refuses now to participate and it tells the House now that it cannot proceed. What will the House do?" Arroyo said.

He warned that the crisis could result in the cancellation of elections.

"The date for the election for senators and congressmen is not by statutes, it is by provision of the Constitution. What if there is no money?" he asked.

Pimentel and Osmeña said the Senate decision not to open an envelope containing documents on a P3.3-billion bank account of President Estrada under the name of Jose Velarde had "severely damaged the credibility of the court."

"The Senate is now a damaged institution. We have to assess if the proceedings are still credible," said Sen. Franklin Drilon, who is considering filing a leave of absence just like Osmeña.

Osmeña maintained that he "would not be used in a scenario to acquit the President."

He also said the 11 senators who had voted against opening the envelope on Tuesday could not elect a new Senate President.

He explained that the majority needed 13 votes to elect a replacement for Pimentel and "the last two votes they need would have to come from me (Osmeña and Nene (Pimentel)."

"And for sure, they would not be able to get any vote from me," he said.

Ask Pimentel to stay

But the majority senators who voted against the opening of the envelope yesterday asked Pimentel to stay on as Senate President.

"I have asked him to stay on as president of the Senate because we still need him. I arranged for him to meet the majority at 1:30 p.m. today so we will take it up there," Senate President Pro Tempore Blas Ople said.

Ople said it was clearly Pimentel who could see the impeachment trial to its conclusion.

"He is now president of the Senate by the will of the majority. I do not see why he should stay out of it at a very critical moment in the impeachment," Ople said.

He said Pimentel had "some conditions for staying which he wants to convey to the majority."

Pimentel confirmed he would want to hear what the 11 senators had to say.

"We will discuss my terms and I will hear theirs. If I can live with what I hear, then I will work what needs to be done," he said.

Sen. Vicente Sotto III said there was no need to elect a new Senate president as the 11th Congress will end in two weeks.

If Pimentel cannot be persuaded to stay, the senators have no choice but to replace him, according to Senate Majority Leader Francisco Tatad.

On Davide's role as presiding officer, Pimentel said Davide could not resign from his post in the impeachment trial.

"He's one official who cannot resign unless he resigns as chief justice. Inhibit yes, probably, but that will be difficult because the Constitution speaks only of the chief justice as the presiding officer," Pimentel said.

Only 19 minutes

The 24th day of the trial yesterday lasted for only 19 minutes and was declared adjourned indefinitely.

Sen. Raul Roco, citing the empty seats in the prosecution side, quickly moved to adjourn the trial as soon as it opened at 3:20 p.m.

The public gallery was filled with people wearing mostly black clothes.

Sen. Renato Cayetano proposed that the trial stand in adjournment until the House shall have acted on the withdrawal of the prosecutors.

Defense lawyer Raul Daza asked that Davide set a specific date of resumption and was declared out of order after angry objections of Roco.

Daza insisted and Senate Majority Leader Tatad told him that he had "no right to speak" at that point.

"Any objection? The motion is approved and the trial of this case is adjourned until the court shall receive the action, one way or the other, by the House of Representatives on the motion of withdrawal of appearance by the prosecutors," Davide said.

The trial's resumption yesterday was moved from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. as Davide looked for ways to have even one representative of the prosecutors to be present in the proceedings.

Aquino-Oreta, who was one of the 11 senator-judges who voted against the opening of the envelope, led the prayer at the start of the session. The mere mention of her name evoked murmurs from the gallery, and a member of the Senate security force had to raise his "Silence" placard.

When she was through with her prayer, the spectators had a coughing fit, which Aquino-Oreta graciously ignored.

Oreta apologizes

Aquino-Oreta apologized after being captured on camera "dancing" with joy after the votes against the opening of the envelope won.

After the adjournment, Senator-Judge Miriam Defensor-Santiago said the trial effectively ended yesterday.

"Today? No, not yet because this is just a deferment until the House makes a remedy. I would think there were evidence presented that would have to be rebutted," Pimentel told reporters.

Asked if he thought the trial would still go on, he said: "I would certainly hope so."

But he said tossing the trial to the next Congress was "something we don't want to happen."

It was Pangasinan Rep. Hernani Braganza who delivered the House prosecutors' manifestation and withdrawal of appearance to the impeachment court yesterday afternoon.

The manifestation, as well as a separate withdrawal of appearance submitted by four private lawyers from the Public Interest Law Center, was received by the Office of the Senate Secretary at 2:20 p.m.

Let the people judge

"We fear that our further participation in the charade will only mislead the people—the ultimate judge. We do not wish to legitimize the proceedings of a tribunal that has lost the moral authority to render judgment on an impeachable official, who has clearly lost the moral ascendancy to govern," said the resignation letter read by Rep. Feliciano Belmonte, head of the prosecution panel.

"The right to judge and the verdict of history must now pass to the sovereign Filipino people."

At a midday press conference, the 11 prosecutors, wearing black ribbons to symbolize their "mourning," signed their resignation letter.

They told Speaker Arnulfo Fuentebella that they could "no longer discharge our constitutional duties."

"The Articles of Impeachment passed by the House have been repeatedly criticized and ridiculed. And from yesterday's vote on the opening of the second Equitable PCI Bank envelope, it is clear to us that the judgment of the impeachment court will not be reached on the basis of truth that the people seek, but on partisan votes of a majority of senator-judges," they said.

Shouting "Erap resign!" all the ex-prosecutors, joined in the forum by 25 other minority members including former Speaker Manuel Villar, said they were "free" as regular lawmakers to seek justice "elsewhere, somewhere outside the Senate halls."

Arroyo said it's up to Fuentebella and the House leadership to elect a new set of prosecutors—"whoever wants to be shamed in that impeachment court."

House rejects resignation

But Fuentebella rejected the prosecutors' resignation letter last night, stressing that they have the "constitutional duty" to continue trying the Articles of Impeachment initiated by the chamber.

Emerging from a caucus of the majority bloc, Fuentebella said it was the sense of the majority bloc "not to accept the resignation and defer action on the matter until we've formally consulted with the 11 prosecutors."

He said the House could arrive at an official position to be conveyed to the Senate impeachment court "hopefully before the end of the week."

Careful to point out that he was not issuing a threat, Fuentebella said that Arroyo and company "can be held liable for abandonment of office, under the law."

He stressed the fact that the 11 were duly elected by the House as prosecutors and were even given a P5-million budget.

Fuentebella said the 11 prosecutors "have been doing a good job, otherwise we should have replaced them earlier."

Overseas Filipinos mad, too

FILIPINOS overseas were swept along by the wave of indignation over the impeachment court's 11-10 vote not to open crucial bank documents that could pin down President Estrada.

Filipino workers belonging to the Erap Resign Network in Hong Kong urged their families at home to join the street protests, saying "the time calls for another display of people power."

The group said in a statement that the refusal of 11 senator-judges to open the documents had "murdered all hopes for the impeachment process in the eyes of the Filipino people."

In Sydney, many Filipinos wept as they watched the live proceedings of the vote.

Filipino community leaders planned a weekend meeting to decide on how to help pressure Mr. Estrada into stepping down.

One of them, who asked not to be named, said the group might decide to ask the Australian government to recall the Australian ambassador to Manila "to protest the death of justice in the Philippines." ***With a report from Oscar R. Landicho***

‘Stay on Edsa until evil is conquered by good’

(From page A1)

Southern Tagalog.

Earlier in the day, fresh off a plane from Hong Kong where he had warned of a possible military coup, former President Fidel Ramos walked the 10-kilometer distance from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport to the Edsa Shrine, urging soldiers to join the protests. ***(See related story on Page A1.)***

A broad alliance of anti-Estrada forces called on the public to support "People Power II" and vowed not to leave Edsa until Mr. Estrada is ousted.

Priests urged the people to bring extra food, drinks and clothes for the long haul.

"They should also bring rain gear and thick clothes for the cold," an organizer said.

Leaders of a newly formed ad hoc committee for the coordinated protest actions expressed optimism that they would soon gather as many as a million people at the site of the 1986 revolt that toppled the Marcos dictatorship.

"We call on all freedom-loving Filipinos, including our fearless prosecutors and senators, to take to the streets and intensify protest actions to oust Estrada and his ruling clique from power," said Rafael Mariano, chair of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan and of the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas.

He said the 11-10 vote of the senator-judges Tuesday night—which triggered noise barrages and street protests nationwide—confirmed that the people no longer had to wait for Feb. 12, when the impeachment court is scheduled to hand down its verdict.

Mariano said it was now "very clear" that the court would vote to acquit the President, who declared Tuesday that he intended to complete his term.

Hope

Sin, who also celebrated a Mass at the Edsa Shrine chapel Tuesday night, told yesterday's crowd: "I have hope because you are here. You are the hope of this nation. So long as you are here, I can keep on hoping. There is only one immoral President and 11 shameless senators.

"There are millions and millions of people who will safeguard the truth and, if necessary, die for the truth."

But while hopeful that street protests would lead to the ouster of the President, thousands wore black as a sign of mourning.

"(Tuesday) night was a night of infamy. Today we wear black to display our anger and frustration over the 11 senators' blatant disregard for truth and justice," Ruth Cervantes, a convenor of the Estrada Resign Movement (Resign), said in an interview.

"It was a spontaneous reaction. But some were urged by our friends through text messages (Tuesday night) to wear black," said Ariane Alinggayu of the Habitat for Humanity.

Alinggayu and her co-workers, said they were proud to wear black to show their disgust.

"What happened that night was very disgusting. We want the truth to come out, but they wouldn't allow it. It's very sad," she said.

Even private prosecutor Frank Chavez, a former solicitor general, was wearing a black shirt.

"It was a blatant mockery and gross travesty of justice," said Chavez. "What the 11 senators did was a total repudiation of the impeachment process. They have completely isolated themselves from the people."

Chavez also said the protesters were wearing black not only to press the demand for Mr. Estrada's resignation but also "to display our anger at the brazen way by which the impeachment proceedings were prostituted."

Disillusion

Sin and the entire presbyterium of the Manila Archdiocese had earlier expressed their disillusion with the impeachment court.

"How can we not be angry when the senators were not pursuing the truth but the acquittal of the President?" he said in his homily.

He added: "With the evidence presented, only the inept and the crazy can believe that he is as innocent as a dove and as pure as a baby.

"The way they voted was a preview of how they would vote on the President's guilt. They voted not to bring out the truth.

"We are angry at the manipulation of the truth and the manipulation of the poor."

In a statement, Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, said the 11 senators had allowed narrow rules and traditional politics to influence them.

"Truth has been subverted. Expectedly, they have ignited the fire of people's indignation and outrage," Quevedo said.

Sin also addressed the "Catholic laymen" in the Cabinet, who, he said, continued to hold on to their posts despite the evidence against Mr. Estrada.

"How can you face God and sleep at night and at the same time support the President? We say to the Cabinet: Resign," he said.

"You should have done this a long time ago. I said this during the campaign . . . If he is elected, it will be a disaster. And (now), you see."

Aquino also appealed to Finance Secretary Jose Pardo to quit.

The cardinal was all praise for the 10 senators who voted for the opening of the second envelope containing crucial documents, and for the prosecutors.

He broke off from his homily to egg the crowd to cheer for Senators Raul Roco, Rene Cayetano and Franklin Drilon.

He exhorted the protesters to lift their anger to the Lord and ask Him to touch Mr. Estrada and the 11 senators.

"All things are possible in God," Sin said.

Rain or shine

The protesters vowed to stay at the Edsa Shrine "rain or shine" until they "reclaim power" from the President.

Cries of "Erap resign!" and "*Patalsikin si* (Oust) Erap!" rang out constantly at the rally site.

Bayan's Mariano said the protesters were prepared to block all the roads around Malacañang.

"The public will reclaim power from Mr. Estrada," Mariano said. "It is the people who will judge him, not the 11 senators."

He said Bayan chapters nationwide would mount boycotts, transport and industrial strikes, mass walkouts and rallies "until the President is forced to step down."

Protesters coming from as far as Olongapo City were barred from going past a police checkpoint, according to Richard Gordon, former chief of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority.

Gordon said that of 30 buses each carrying 60-80 protesters, only six made it.

"But we will try again tomorrow." Gordon said. "People from Olongapo will be here every day to join the demands to oust the President."

Fr. Robert Reyes, a convenor of the Kongreso ng Mamamayang Pilipino (Kompil) II, said he hoped that the President would be ousted before Valentine's Day.

"The Filipinos failed to celebrate Christmas and New Year because of the crisis that Mr. Estrada made us to go through. The crisis was all his doing," Reyes said, adding:

"We hope to extend the Christmas spirit and celebrate it, hopefully on Valentine's Day, when Erap has resigned."

Starlet Rosanna Roces, one of the rally speakers, denounced Mr. Estrada: "*Magnanakaw ka* (You are a thief), Erap!"

She said she was proud to say that she made a living the hard way, "unlike Erap who stole the people's money."

Roces also said the poor should ignore Mr. Estrada's promises because he was the "biggest liar."

"Get out of Malacañang before I am forced to strip here!" she said, to a delighted roar from the crowd.

Day by day

Yesterday morning, leaders of the United Opposition, Bayan, Kompil II, Kangkong Brigade, Bayan Muna, Akbayan, Resign and other anti-Estrada groups held an emergency meeting to firm up protest plans.

"We will stay here indefinitely. We have yet to finalize our course of action but in the meantime, we will live day by day," said Bayan secretary general Teodoro Casiño.

He also urged depositors of Equitable PCI Bank and Philippine National Bank to make "massive withdrawals" and cancel their credit cards.".

"This is to prove that we are serious, even if it means risking our financial circumstances," Casiño said.

Laguna Gov. Joey Lina, president of the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines and a convenor of the Kangkong Brigade, asked all governors and mayors to speak up against Mr. Estrada, saying "there cannot be local autonomy under the present administration." ***With reports from Michael Lim Ubac, Christine Avendaño and Agnes E. Donato***

Wanted . . .

(From page A1)

bers of the House who can or are willing to continue the task of prosecuting the President may not be easy.

The new prosecutors will be burdened by a serious credibility problem. Unless the replacements enjoy a reputation of independence and intelligence, they will be viewed by the public as "Trojan horses" sent by the Malacañang-controlled House to save the President's skin.

It is doubtful if any of the reputable members of the political opposition who were left out in the selection of the original prosecution team will agree to serve as substitutes for the "First Eleven."

Although participation in the President's prosecution will ensure nationwide radio and television exposure, the prospect of committing serious mistakes in

the presentation of the evidence before an estimated audience of 20 million may deter even the most publicity-hungry congressman from accepting the appointment.

Sufficient funds

Aside from having good litigation skills, the new prosecutors should have the perseverance and dedication to review the transcript of 23 days of trial and more than 100 pieces of documents already marked in evidence. And the stamina and enthusiasm to map out a strategy that will enable them to accomplish the purpose for which they were appointed.

If there are not enough congressmen to constitute the second prosecution team, the House can engage the services of private lawyers to assist in the performance of the job. This engagement will require the appropriation of huge sums of money to pay for their services and other expenses.

There is no scarcity of private lawyers who will, for the right price, agree to take over the task of prosecuting the President. But does the House have sufficient funds for this purpose?

Of course, the House can request the private lawyers who assisted, free of charge, the original prosecution team to continue helping the new prosecutors. The question, however, is whether these volunteers can be persuaded to stay on.

In the first place, these lawyers offered or agreed to work as private prosecutors because of their personal relationship with members of the original prosecution team. With the removal of that link, it is doubtful if the volunteers would be amenable to working with people with whom they have had little or no previous interaction.

Biggest obstacle

The biggest stumbling block though is that these private prosecutors have lost faith in the impeachment process itself and were even the first ones to walk out of the premises when 11 senators voted to prohibit the opening of the second Equitable PCI Bank envelope.

No time frame

The impeachment court did not give the House a time frame within to which to decide on the prosecution's request to withdraw from the trial.

The open-ended period is an affirmation of the House's standing as the sole initiator of any petition for impeachment that may be filed against officials holding positions created by the Constitution.

If the House decides to act on the withdrawal request immediately, fine. The trial proceedings can resume within days from the selection of a new prosecution team. But the resumption could take weeks or even months if the House is unable to convince enough congressmen to fill the void left by Rep. Joker Arroyo and company.

Or, the House can agree not to appoint a new prosecution team and instead let the next batch of congressmen who will be elected in the May 2001 elections to decide on whether or not to pursue the impeachment trial of President Estrada and, if they decide to do so, to appoint a new set of prosecutors.

Defense moves

In the event the House fails to act on the withdrawal request within a reasonable period of time, the President's lawyers, with the assistance of his Senate allies, can ask the court to reconvene and consider alternative courses of action to terminate the proceedings.

‘Lack of interest’

The defense can move for the dismissal of the case on the ground of lack of interest or failure to prosecute. When a complainant fails or refuses to prosecute his complaint for an unreasonable length of time, the case can be dismissed by a court upon the request of the defendant or at its own accord.

The action on this motion requires only a majority vote, not two thirds vote which is reserved for the determination on whether the President is guilty or innocent of any of the Articles of Impeachment.

With the votes of 11 pro-administration senators already assured, the defense will have no difficulty getting a favorable response for its motion to dismiss.

On the short term, the motion to dismiss will be a good route to take in writing finish to the case. Once dismissed, the same impeachment charges can no longer be refiled. If there are new impeachment charges, they can be filed only 12 months after Nov. 13, 2000, the date of filing of the impeachment charges presently being heard by the court.

On the long term, however, a motion to dismiss will be detrimental to the image and reputation of the President in the annals of history. When records of the trial are read by succeeding generations, what they will see are only the evidence presented by the prosecution.

The damning testimonies of Emma Lim, Clarissa Ocampo, Luis Singson, Ruben Almadro, Jose Luis Yulo, Perfecto Yasay Jr. and Edgardo Espiritu will be the evidence upon which the reader of the records can decide whether the President is guilty or innocent of the charges against him.

Without any evidence being presented by the defense to disprove the allegations of wrongdoing testified on by those witnesses, the President will stand guilty as charged in the eyes of whoever reviews the trial records.

President's side

If only to clear the President's name for the benefit of the generations to come, the defense may have to exert every effort to be allowed to present evidence on the President's behalf.

Never mind if there is no prosecution lawyer who will cross-examine the defense witnesses. The absence of the prosecution shall be considered a waiver of its right to cross-examine the defense witnesses.

What is important is the President's side on the charges form part of the records of the proceedings so the next generation can decide for itself, on the basis of the evidence on record, whether or not the President is guilty or innocent of the impeachment charges.

In addition, whatever evidence the defense is able to present can be cited by the President's supporters to rebut allegations about his moral fitness to continue to govern the country. Absent this evidence, all protestations about the President's innocence of the impeachment charges will sound hollow and difficult to believe.

So what happens to the testimonial and documentary evidence that the prosecution has so far presented before the court if a new set of prosecutors is not appointed or the defense moves for the dismissal of the case?

The evidence can be stricken off the records and considered as not having been presented at all. Under our existing rules, evidence that is not formally offered to, and accepted, by the court for its consideration can be disregarded on grounds of immateriality and irrelevancy.

Tomorrow, we shall discuss the effects of the trial stalemate on the Senate and the possible scenarios for a constitutional crisis.

HATOL NG BAYAN

GUILTY!

All patriots are called on to converge at the EDSA Shrine (or in your provincial plaza) for the next few days (24-hour vigil rally) until President Estrada resigns.

"And do this because you know the time;
it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.
For our salvation is nearer now
than when we first believed"
(Romans 13:11)

COUPLES FOR CHRIST

ADVT.

Velarde account: From ₱1 to 3.2B

THE JOSE Velarde account with Equitable PCI Bank was opened with an initial deposit of P1 on Aug. 26, 1999, copies of bank statements obtained by the INQUIRER showed.

But the following day, the balance in Savings Account No. 00160-62501-5 rose to P81,000,001 with the deposit of two separate checks for P10 million and P71 million.

In just four months, the total amount of money deposited in the savings account with the Equitable PCI Bank branch in Juan Luna Street in Binondo, Manila, rose a whopping P2.22 billion.

By July 2000, the cumulative deposits ballooned to P3.23 billion.

The information obtained by the INQUIRER was reportedly contained in the sealed envelope that the Senate refused to open.

Voting 11-10, the Senate decided on Tuesday that the contents of the second envelope could not be used as evidence since the existence of the President's secret bank accounts was not included in the crimes alleged against the President in the Articles of Impeachment.

The prosecution panel said the bank account represented ill-gotten wealth since his declared net worth in 1999 was only P35 million.

The bank statements obtained by the INQUIRER did not show the names of people who deposited the checks or cash in the "mother" account.

But resigned House Prosecutor Joker Arroyo said Tuesday that the money came from various checks, most of them paid to cash, from the President's cronies such as Mark Jimenez, Dante Tan, Jaime Dichaves, Lucio Co and a certain Kelvin Garcia.

Another set of documents obtained by the INQUIRER, this time from the tabloid Pinoy Times, showed that PLDT chair Manuel Pangilinan was among those who deposited money in the Velarde account.

The documents showed that Pangilinan issued a check for P20 million, which was deposited in the Velarde account in Nov. 5, 1999.

The check was issued from Pangilinan's checking account No. 009-101-00166-3 with the Asian Bank main office.

The President yesterday denied that he owned the Jose Velarde account.

"I wish to assure the public that the Jose Velarde account is not mine," the President said in a statement.

The statement was apparently only added in haste to a one-page press statement that Malacañang issued. The statement was computer-printed while the reference to the Velarde account was handwritten.

A Palace source admitted that the statement was prepared midnight Tuesday, but the hand-written reference to the Velarde account was added at dawn.

Equitable PCI Bank vice president Clarissa Ocampo had testified before the Senate impeachment court that she saw President Estrada sign Jose Velarde when he opened a P500-million trust account on Feb. 4, 2000.

Apostol

Pinoy Times publisher Eugenia "Eggie" Apostol said a summary of the Velarde account's transactions furnished her paper was contained in the sealed document that the Senate did not open.

The summary listed 67 check deposits totaling P1.2 billion that went into the alleged fictitious account.

Apostol said she obtained the list from a source, who wanted the envelope's contents to be known despite the Senate order.

Based on the summary list of transactions furnished to the Pinoy Times, a total of P1,206,523,855.82 was deposited in the Velarde account from August 1999 to December 2000.

The deposits were mostly in the form of cashier checks that did not reveal the identity of the person who issued the check.

But some checks were issued from the checking accounts of the following: Kelvin Garcia, Antonio S. Evangelista and Jaime C. Dichaves or Abby C. Dichaves.

The House prosecution panel alleged that Kelvin Garcia is another false name used by the President.

But Garcia is said to be Lucio Tan, owner of Allied Bank.

Biggest depositor

The biggest check depositor, Kelvin Garcia, made 17 check deposits to the Jose Velarde account from Aug. 25, 1999 to Dec. 20, 2000 amounting to P175 million.

Kelvin Garcia issued the check using his current account with the Allied Bank main office (Account No. 001001-10651-1).

Dichaves, a close friend of the President, deposited two checks from his Checking Account No. 000007-05558-7 with Far East Bank-Cubao Araneta Center branch.

The first check was dated Sept. 6, 1999 for P20 million, while the second check was for P189.7 million dated Nov. 8, 1999, which was the single biggest deposit made into the Jose Velarde account.

Dichaves had claimed ownership of the P500-million Jose Velarde account before Ocampo testified that she saw the President sign Jose Velarde when he opened the trust account.

Antonio Evangelista issued a check dated July 25, 2000 for P40 million from his checking account No. 00686-5-05053-2 with BPI-Katipunan Loyola.

A total of 21 bank branches were involved in the transactions, according to the summary.

These are Allied Bank head office, Far East Bank-Roxas Boulevard, PCI Bank-G. Antonio Pasig, Westmont Bank-Ayala, United Coconut Planters Bank-Alfaro, Equitable Bank-Divisoria M. de Saritos, Bank of Commerce-Port Area; Urban Bank main office, FEBTC-Cubao Araneta Center, Metrobank-FB Harrison, Metrobank-Salcedo Village and BPI Family Bank-Katipunan Loyola.

Metrobank-Divisoria Center, Metrobank-Magdalena Center, Equitable Bank-Binondo-J. Luna; Metrobank-Metrobank Plaza, GlobalBank head office, PSBank head office, Security Bank head office, Asian Bank main office and UrbanBank head office.

1st set of documents

In the first set of documents obtained by the INQUIRER, the Velarde account received a total of P1,011,443,000 in cash and check deposits from January to July 2000.

The breakdown is as follows:

- P196,825,055.65 in January;
- P506,416,666.66 in February;
- P988,739.26 in March;
- P201,749,793.10 in May;
- P43,465,994.79 in June; and
- P62 million in July.

As of end of September 2000, however, the balance dwindled to P111,715.69 because of heavy withdrawals.

On July 3, 2000, P120 million was withdrawn from the account.

But it received separate P40 million and P22 million check deposits on July 25 and July 31, respectively.

On Aug. 2, 2000, P65 million was further withdrawn. The account did not receive any cash or check deposit that month.

Two curious transactions were made in one day in February 2000. On Feb. 4, a total P506,416,666.66 was credited to the account.

On the very same day, P500,000,000 was withdrawn.

This is most likely the money debited from the mother account and credited to the trust account which the President opened on Feb. 4, 2000.

Dona Pazzibugan

Peso plunges to 55.75 against the US dollar

(From page A1)

the 30-company Philippine Stock Exchange Index plunging by as much as 8 percent and the peso falling to as low as 55.75 against the dollar.

About 100 PSE brokers with black armbands staged a walkout mid-morning at the Ayala trading floor to dramatize the outrage of foreign and local investors over what was widely seen as the Senate court's virtual acquittal of the President.

"Our market is dead . . . The next people who'll be jobless are us," said PSE governor and First Resources Management Corp. president Vivien Yuchengco, who led the walkout wearing a head band marked "Resign."

Powerful business groups also allowed thousands of their employees to take the day off and join the "People Power" protest at the Edsa Shrine.

"The 11 senator-judges, together with the President (Estrada), have lost all authority to hold office," the Makati Business Club and other business groups said in a joint statement. *(See related story on Page A13.)*

But Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura played down the peso' fall, saying it was "an overreaction" that was "without reason."

"Eventually, this will settle down one way or another," Buenaventura added.

The peso, which has been hitting record lows regularly since the "Juetengate" scandal broke out last October, opened at a record-low 55.50 to the dollar, down from its close of 52.78 Tuesday.

The peso quickly edged even lower at 55.75 and closed at 54.625. Trading volume fell to $70 million from $158 million the previous day.

The black market rate reportedly hovered around P56 to the greenback—but dollars were hard to find.

Biggest decline

The main stock market index, on the other hand, quickly plummeted by as much as 8 percent in early trading before closing 6 percent down at 1,458.63, its biggest single-day percentage decline in two years.

"There will be a lot more that will happen that to me would suggest that things may deteriorate further . . . I don't think we can get a fix until after two or three months," said Jojo Gonzales, chief strategist of Merrill Lynch Securities Philippines.

Gonzales said the markets had assumed there would be a change in government after the impeachment trial.

Foreign brokers became net buyers of local stock, making the local market the fourth best performing in the region with its 3.83-percent gain since the start of the year.

But that was before the Senate court voted on Tuesday night to disallow the opening of a sealed envelope containing records of the President's alleged P3.3-billion secret account at Equitable PCI Bank.

On Wednesday, foreign brokers became net sellers and the local stock market once more became one of the region's laggards.

"In my mind, the markets were pricing a conviction. But what is now clear is that we'll probably get an acquittal so not only do we reverse the year-to-date gains but we will probably go a lot lower because the landscape has changed," Gonzales said.

Yuchengco

Yuchengco confirmed that all the foreign investors "who went in during the last few days went out."

"They don't like it when there's no transparency and when there's no playing field and what happened Tuesday night—that wasn't an even playing field," she added.

Yuchengco said that not even government financial institutions were able to stop the avalanche of foreign selling.

"He (Mr. Estrada) is our problem and he doesn't even realize it," Yuchengco said.

The Ayala-based stockbrokers walked out of the trading floor at 10:30 a.m., chanting "Erap, Resign!" They paraded at the lobby of the PSE triangle for around one hour before dispersing to join the rally at Edsa.

"This is nothing yet," Alejandro Yu, a PSE governor, quipped. "And this is just the effect of an envelope not being permitted to be opened."

Traders said the main index would most likely test the 1,400 support level today on fears of civil unrest as protests against the Senate decision were likely to escalate in key cities in the country.

Astro del Castillo, research head of A&A Securities Inc. and spokesperson of the Association of Securities Analysts of the Philippines, said the refusal of 11 senator-judges to open the second Equitable PCI Bank envelope had shattered hopes the impeachment trial would be fair.

"The same senator-judges who swore to uphold the integrity of the impeachment proceedings and to render impartial judgement have prejudged the relevance or irrelevance of the evidence contained thereof," he said.

But the Asap statement applauded Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. whom Castillo said "had refused to give credibility to the terrible injustice that was dealt to the nation by the 11 senator-judges who voted in favor of hiding the truth from the Filipino people."

Pimentel resigned as Senate President after casting a "yes" vote.

Buenaventura

Buenaventura said the peso was likely to remain volatile in the next few days but should return to 48 to the dollar level when jitters subside.

"It might be an early reaction to what happened last night, and with all the noise barrage going on today and protests and all of that, the market is quite nervous," Buenaventura said in a radio interview.

"What I can say is, for the time being, unless you really desperately need to buy the dollars today, this is not a good time to buy dollars because this is part of the emotional reaction," he added. Buenaventura called the peso's current level "abnormal" and that it would eventually correct itself.

"We are right now at an abnormal time because you're saying there are all these protests," he said. "We will provide liquidity at a certain point here."

There were unconfirmed reports that the central bank had made $5-million intervention to prop up the ailing currency.

Buenaventura said raising the central bank's overnight borrowing rate was not the solution to the peso's woes.

But Steve Brice, treasury economist of Standard Chartered Bank in Singapore, said the central bank might be forced to consider such an option.

"If the peso continues to weaken, then maybe we may see action from them (central bank) on interest rates," Brice told ABS-CBN News. ***With reports from AP, AFP and Reuters***

FVR: Erap rule stinks like Metro garbage

(From page A1)

stinks like garbage."

Fresh from a speaking engagement in Hong Kong, an upbeat Ramos even tried to coax Air Force personnel to abandon their posts yesterday and join him at a massive rally on the highway where he helped lead a revolt in 1986, Defense Secretary Orlando Mercado said.

After his arrival yesterday morning, Ramos, 72, hit the ground running by walking all the way from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport to the Edsa Shrine to join the mammoth anti-Estrada rally.

In a statement that he read more than once yesterday, Ramos said: "Now is the time for the professional corps and rank and file of the Armed Force and the Philippine National Police to unite behind the people . . . (and fight the) dirty tricks of the Estrada government."

Retired Gen. Lisandro Abadia, former AFP chief of staff under Ramos, gave a hint as to what form possible military and police intervention may take in a worst-case scenario.

He told the INQUIRER that intervention would not take the form of a coup d'etat but would be a simple withdrawal of recognition of Mr. Estrada as the country's legitimate President.

"The military will not do a coup. They will withdraw support for the President," Abadia said.

"If he gives an illegal order, I don't think that the military will follow. And when that happens, I think he (Mr. Estrada) should take the cue and leave."

But Renato de Villa, Ramos' former defense secretary, contended the other night that "we do not see any movement from the military at the moment."

After he got off his flight, Ramos excitedly peeled off his coat, tie and polo shirt, revealing a white undershirt. He wore it throughout the rest of the day, signature cigar in hand.

"Let's walk our busy streets and highways to gather our people and join the majority of them in registering our outrage against this stinking leadership," he said in a statement he read at the airport.

Telling his aides, "Let's go to Edsa," he started walking—eventually making his way into the Villamor Air Force base in Pasay, where he asked staff there to join him in the protest march.

'Deplorable' attempt

Mercado denounced the behavior of the former Armed Forces chief of staff.

"(Ex-)President Ramos was allowed to walk through or march or do whatever he want(ed) to do as an expression of his right in spite of the fact that it's deplorable that there is an attempt to politicize the military," Mercado said over radio station dzRH.

He said authorities were "exercising maximum tolerance" as tens of thousands of anti-Estrada activists trooped to the streets to demand the President's ouster.

Ramos intermittently jogged and walked through Villamor, crossed the South Luzon Expressway, wove his way through Fort Bonifacio onto Mckinley Road, and finally turned onto Edsa.

He told the INQUIRER that he decided to stage the long walk as his way of "going back to basics, going back to work, going back to democracy."

Ramos was at first accompanied by around 20 of his supporters, but by the time he reached the corner of Mckinley and Edsa around 1:40 p.m., he was surrounded by more than 50 people mostly dressed in black.

Along Edsa, office workers left buildings to join his small march, which took up around three lanes.

Along the way, Ramos waved to passersby, gave the now familiar thumbs-down sign and shook the hands of onlookers as soldiers from nearby Camp Aguinaldo watched silently.

Jump

When he reached the Edsa Shrine, where his arrival was welcomed with cheers, his contingent numbered around 300 people.

Onstage, he gamely attempted to replay the moment when key figures in the 1986 People Power Revolt leaped into the air after Ferdinand Marcos fled—then grinned widely as an enthusiastic supporter hoisted him up in his arms before the cheering, laughing crowd.

It was a hoarse and sweaty Ramos, with one shoulder nearly exposed through the loose neckline of his undershirt, who addressed the protesters.

Mr. Estrada's vocal critic accused him of resorting to "Marcos-like dirty tricks" just to perpetuate himself in power.

In a press conference after the speech, he said: "From hereon, I, as a concerned citizen, former President and Commander in Chief, and as a retired USAFP and four-star general, will join the protest rallies to manifest not only my outrage but also my hopes for a better Philippines, which the Filipino people deserve."

On military support

Ramos called upon the Federation of Retired Commanders and Enlisted Soldiers (Forces) "to join me and the people in the crusade for better governance and effective leadership which Erap Estrada cannot provide."

Abadia belied Sen. Gregorio Honasan's assertion that "people power" would not succeed today because the military would not support it.

"I believe the military will side with the people when the situation continues to worsen, as the soldiers have done in the past," he said in an interview at the Edsa Shrine before dawn yesterday.

Abadia said that he and his batch mates from the Philippine Military Academy's Class '62 would come out with a paid advertisement calling for the President's immediate resignation.

"The men and women of the armed services cannot be innocent bystanders, watching the people go hungrier by the day, containing anarchy in the streets, taking orders from authorities who have lost their moral ascendancy to govern," Class '62 said in the ad.

Abadia said that soldiers also closely watched the impeachment process and had seen the damning evidence against the President.

"They know the issues, they also weigh the testimonies and evidence, and they surely know in their hearts and in their minds if President Estrada is guilty or not in all the Articles of Impeachment. By the grace of God, they know what to do," Abadia and his classmates said.

Besides Abadia, the signatories include retired military generals Alfredo Filler, Orlando Soriano, Rodolfo Estrellado, Carlos Tanega, Vice Admiral Armando Madamba, and police director generals Agerico Kagaoan and Gerardo Flores.

Two more PMA classes are expected to come out next week with their own statements about the current political crisis, Abadia said.

Everyone stinks

At the beginning of his statement, read at the dignitaries' lounge at the Naia, Ramos likened the Philippines to garbage. "This is now the image of the Philippines in the current Asia Pacific news magazines," he said, holding up a copy of Time magazine's article on the country's garbage problem, titled "This Stinks."

"But it is not just about garbage but it is also about President Estrada's leadership," he added.

Ramos also took time to assail the Senate decision not to open the second envelope containing bank records allegedly proving that President Estrada made illegal billions.

"The Senate decision stinks. Pro-Erap senators stink just like Metro Manila garbage," said Mr. Ramos.

Ramos called on Mr. Estrada, Secretary Robert Aventajado and Metro Manila Development Authority Chair Jejomar Binay to rid Metro Manila within 10 days of the heaps of decomposing, maggot-ridden garbage on its streets.

"If he and they (Aventajado and Binay) can't do so, Erap better resign together with his ineffective managers and administrators. They must do that in order to save our beloved Philippines from becoming a *basura* country, a stinking garbage dump of stinking cronies, stinking favorites, stinking senators, etc., etc. in the eyes of the world," he said.

Almost immediately after Ramos' arrival from Hong Kong, Sen. Blas Ople was quoted as saying the former president and other anti-Estrada leaders should be charged with sedition.

Using Mr. Estrada's line, Ramos retorted: "*Wag nyo akong subukan* (Don't try me)."

"Just let them try," he told the INQUIRER.

Ramos added that he was not the least bit daunted by the walk. "It's just like a few rounds of golf," said the avid sportsman and golfer. ***With a report from Michael Lim Ubac***

FVR hit the ground walking from the airport upon arrival from Hong Kong all the way to Edsa attracting the likes of Winnie Monsod (at right) along the way.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Duremdes staying with Alaska

By Marc Anthony Reyes

ALASKA Milk made true of its promise to keep Kenneth Duremdes at all costs when it matched Mobiline's eight-year offer sheet that could reach P80 million in wages and bonuses.

This was confirmed by sources close to the 6-foot-3 guard even as Alaska team owner Wilfred Uytengsu made a marching order to manager Joaqui Trillo to match the deal up to the last centavo.

Alaska coach Tim Cone yesterday called up Duremdes and told him to join the team practice this morning following the confirmation of the offer sheet match, according to agent Danny Espiritu.

However, the PBA has yet to receive the counter offer sheet which was formalized late yesterday after league officials found no violations on Mobiline's offer sheet.

"He (Duremdes) was surprised that Alaska is actually willing to spend that much to a player," said Espiritu. "He's going to be in the practice tomorrow (today)."

Alaska didn't wait for its deadline on Monday to match the offer sheet in showing its desire to keep the 1998 MVP on its fold.

Trillo also downplayed Duremdes' gesture of signing the offer sheet which only signified the player's desire to leave the team.

"I don't think he's raring to leave Alaska," said Trillo. "I think he's just trying to get the best deal possible."

The manager said he can't blame Duremdes for signing the Mobiline offer sheet but explained that all the restructuring the Aces are undergoing is meant to prepare the 1998 MVP's rise as the franchise player.

Duremdes has shown disgust over the trade that shipped Johnny Abarrientos and Poch Juinio to Pop Cola.

"He must understand that all these movements are for Kenneth," Trillo said. "But we are glad that Kenneth is very upfront with me and very professional about it."

Meanwhile Alaska's first-round pick John Arigo is assured of at least a three-year contract with the maximum rookie salary of P200,000 a month, according to Trillo.

According to Trillo, the 6-foot-5 Arigo deserves the amount even though he was not the No. 1 pick. Eventual overall top pick Willie Miller won't get the maximum pay, according to coach Yeng Guiao.

Trillo also said Arigo is a bigger version of Rodney Santos with splendid three-point shooting and they intend to use Arigo, Duremdes and Santos all at the same time.

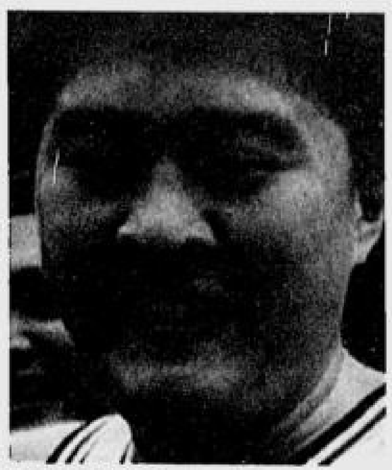
As for Bong Hawkins, Trillo said the best they could offer the 6-foot-3 power forward was a one-year contract with no more than P350,000 monthly pay.

He added that three months ago, Alaska offered Hawkins a three-year deal with a maximum salary of P500,000 which the player has been getting under his previous contract.

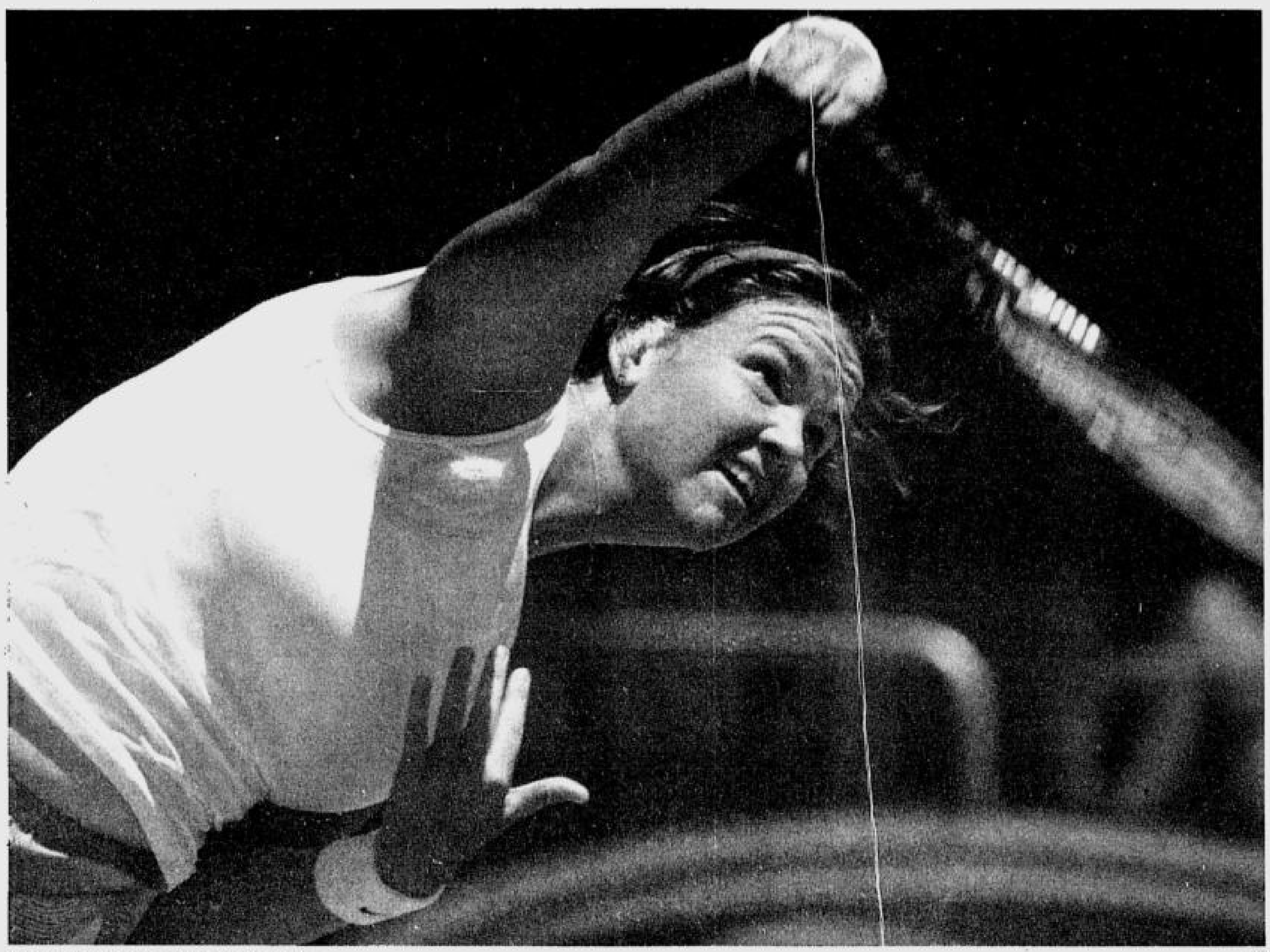
But Hawkins dilly-dallied because he was still weighing Tanduay's offer which eventually fizzled out with the massive change in the Rhummasters' coaching staff.

In other development, the PBA yesterday summoned sacked Tanduay Gold coach Alfrancis Chua to shed light on the issue of side contract the Rhummasters allegedly gave their players.

The PBA refused to reveal Chua's testimony but confirmed that the investigating committee, headed by PBA executive director Ricky Palou, is set to make his report to commissioner Jun Bernardino by next week.



DUREMDES



DAVENPORT serves against Arn.

AP

Agassi, Sampras prevail

MELBOURNE, Australia— Andre Agassi hit the cruise control button but his old rival Pete Sampras was made to sweat as they both advanced to the third round of the Australian Open here on Wednesday.

The two dominant figures in men's tennis for the last decade are now just one match away from a quarterfinal showdown in which, on the form displayed so far, Agassi will start as favorite.

The defending champion, bidding for his 7th Grand Slam title, looked close to his awesome best as he swept aside fellow American Paul Goldstein 6-1, 6-3, 6-1 under the floodlights in a packed Rod Laver Arena.

It was painful to watch as Goldstein, a fast-improving 25-year-old, was ruthlessly taken apart by the relentless power and accuracy of Agassi's baseline hitting in just over an hour.

Sampras was given his second tough workout of the tournament before edging past Bohdan Ulihrach, a Czech who had beaten him twice before.

A fifth set had looked inevitable when Ulihrach went a break up in the fourth. But Sampras showed why he has won a record 13 Grand Slam titles by stepping up a gear to come back for a 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-5), 4-6, 7-5 win.

Sampras was not the only big name to struggle on Wednesday. Women's defending champion Lindsay Davenport was given a fright by an unknown qualifier Greta Arn of Germany before winning 6-2, 4-6, 6-2; Marat Safin was pained by an elbow injury and Conchita Martinez became the first big name to tumble out. Former Wimbledon champion Martinez was joined at the exit door by her Spanish compatriot Juan Carlos Ferrero. *AFP*

Camby awaits sanction

PURCHASE, New York — A much calmer Marcus Camby took full blame for his actions as he awaited word Tuesday from the NBA on the length of his suspension for throwing a punch at an opponent that instead decked his own coach.

"I regret that I lost my cool, because that's not me," Camby said at the Knicks' practice facility. "Those who have been around me since I've been here know that I'm an easygoing-type guy.

Camby's punch did not strike Danny Ferry of San Antonio because coach Jeff Van Gundy stepped between them at the last moment. Camby's head collided with Van Gundy's, opening a cut above Van Gundy's left eye that required 12-15 stitches.

Camby had scrapes above both his eyes Tuesday—one from being poked by Ferry, one from colliding with his coach. Van Gundy's eye also remained swollen.

Complete results: Miami 93, Detroit 85; Houston 114, Toronto 99; Milwaukee 112, L.A. Clippers 91; Portland 103, Cleveland 83. *AP*

Shark, Welcoat see action today

STANDINGS	W	L
Shark	9	2
Welcoat	8	3
Montaña	7	5
Hapee	6	6
Blu	6	6
Ateneo	5	7

GAMES TODAY *(Makati Coliseum)*
3:30 p.m.—Montaña Jewels vs Shark Energy
5:30 p.m.—Welcoat Paints vs Ateneo-Pioneer

PACESETTER Shark Energy Drink and closest pursuer Welcoat Paints clash with dangerous foes today in the PBL Challenge Cup semifinals at the Makati Coliseum.

The Energy Drink Kings take the floor against Montaña Jewels in the curtain-raiser at 3:30 p.m., while defending champion Welcoat seeks revenge against first round tormentor Ateneo-Pioneer at 5:30 p.m.

Victories by Shark (9-2) and Welcoat (8-3) will oust their foes from the much-coveted 4 of 5 incentive, while moving closer to a best-of-seven championship encounter.

Tournament rules say that a team winning four of its five semis game will earn a playoff against the number two finisher for the second finals slot.

Welcoat swept Shark in the Chairman's Cup en route to its third straight championship.

"Montaña's backcourt is dangerous," said Shark coach Leo Austria. Austria is referring to Jacques Gottenbos, Aris Dimaunahan and pointguard Orly Torrente.

PBA draftee Roger Yap and Michael Robinson, high-leaping Chester Tolomia and shooter Egay Echavez banner Shark's assault. *Dennis Eroa*

Literal voted BAP head

THE NATIONAL board of the Basketball Association of the Philippines reaffirmed its stand for change yesterday, electing Quintellano "Tiny" Literal as its president during a special meeting in Angeles City.

Literal, erstwhile vice president for Mindanao, replaced Lito Puyat, who agreed to return to his old post as BAP chair in lieu of Tony Angeles, who opted to remain as Region 3 director.

Nineteen of the 23 national board members attended or were represented in the meeting, again rebuffing ousted BAP president Freddie Jalasco, who had declared the meeting as illegal.

"We held this meeting to resolve the BAP presidency and the chairmanship," said Literal, a former basketball player and customs official. "We called Mr. Puyat and he accepted."

Lawyer and executive vice president Bonifacio Alentajan presided over the meeting where Regino Cua was elected as VP for Mindanao. Other key officers in the new BAP hierarchy were secretary general Graham Lim, VP for Luzon Jaime Dichaves, Rep. Eduardo Gullas, VP for Visayas; and treasurer Christian Tan. The officers were inducted by Angeles Vice Mayor Ricardo Zalamea. *Roy Luarca*

SPORTSWATCH

Tyson suspended for 3 months

DETROIT—Mike Tyson's boxing license in Michigan was suspended for three months and ordered to pay $205,000 for refusing to submit to a urine test before his Oct. 20 fight against Andrew Golota. The decision Tuesday will be honored by at least one important governing body outside Michigan—the Nevada State Athletic Commission. The board required Tyson to make a "donation" of $200,000 to organizations it will approve later. The other $5,000 was called a fine. Tyson did not attend the hearing. His lawyer, Neil Fink, agreed on his client's behalf to abide by the donation and fine. Fink refused comment Tuesday. *AP*

Woods, V. Williams lead awardees

LONDON—American superstars Tiger Woods, Marion Jones, Michael Johnson and Venus Williams were among the winners at the World Sports Awards gala Tuesday night at the Royal Albert Hall _ with a special tribute going to Muhammad Ali. Woods, who captured three majors last year while completing a career Grand Slam, won the men's award in the ball sports category. Williams, the singles champion at Wimbledon, the US Open and the Sydney Olympics, took the women's award. Jones and Johnson swept the track and field prizes. *AP*

3rd Ucap Derby set Jan. 23, 25

BIG-TIME cockfighting action returns at Mandaluyong Coliseum this coming Tuesday and Thursday (Jan. 23 and 25) with the staging of the 3rd Ucap/ Altuz 6-Cock Derby at Mandaluyong Coliseum. Sponsors are Sagupaan Super Feeds and Lakpue Drug Inc. Lawyer-sportsman Ram Lopez, one of Ucap's founding members, will host this two-day cockfest which is expected to draw more than 40 powerhouse entries. This event is also the third of 13 cockfests which will serve as basis in selecting the Ucap Cocker of the Year 2000-2001. BJ Greenwood I of Ucap president Butch Macasaet and Joey delos Santos is the current leader with 14 points followed by Roadmaster Cobra Balbina of Pete Rodriguez with 10 points.

RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Luscky Swing 2. Private Asset 3. Mighty swift 4. Real Good Times

Race 2—1. Star of Arabia 2. Mina's Pet 3. Lizzie's Doll

Race 3—1. Always Remember 2. Naic Warrior 3. Secret Quest 4. Belle D Amour

Race 4—1. Lady Darinda 2. Hurry King 3. Strong Bird 4. Spoiler

Race 5—1. Something Best 2. Absolute Power 3. Time is Gold

Race 6—1. Party Princess 2. Santa Fe 3. Portal Dancer 4. Lover Boy

Race 7—1. My Indy/Brave Alliance 2. Raise A Fire 3. El Bulldog

Race 8—1. Taproot 2. Baby My Beloved 3. Dr. Jones 4. Money in Motion

Race 9—1. Nobel Prize/Irish Diplomat 2. Above All 3. Doctor's Advice 4. Go Johnny Go

Dancesport comes of age

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

IN 1996 Becky Garcia, whose passion for dancing never fails to amaze us, organized (along with some friends) the Dance Sport Council of the Philippines. In the same year, DSCP joined the International Dance Sport Federation, the governing body for amateur dancesport recognized by the International Olympic Committee, and the World Dance and Dance Sport Council so that the Philippines could qualify for international competitions.

The council also launched in 1996 a nationwide workshop and competition series conducted by licensed foreign coaches to professionalize the sport, known as ballroom dancing to thousands who are addicted to it. The out-of-town sorties included the cities of Bacolod, Cebu, Davao, General Santos and Cotabato and several provinces in Luzon where regional officials embarked on a truly grassroots promotion and development program.

And because it is the only dancesport body recognized by the Philippine Olympic Committee, the council is putting on record that any other group claiming otherwise is a fake, hence all activities undertaken by that group are unauthorized.

"It's as simple as that," said Garcia, the tireless DSCP president who also chairs the POC education and culture commission.

Dancesport (or ballroom dancing) has been wrongly perceived as a social and recreational activity and not as a sport. However, Ken Richards of the famous Arthur Murray Studios in the United States dismissed this mistaken notion saying, "ballroom dancing is a very tough sport and the people who compete in dance contests are definitely hard bodies."

Since four years ago, the council has taken enormous strides.

PSC launches 'Oplan' for safety of athletes

By June Navarro

SAFETY will be the paramount concern of the Philippine Sports Commission once the Second Batang Pinoy Games gets going this weekend amid a turbulent political storm brewing in the country.

With this backdrop, the PSC yesterday launched Oplan Batang Pinoy, a security measure to ensure the safety of the more than 2,500 competitors in the 12-years-and-below tournament, which will run from Jan. 21-28.

Commissioner William Ramirez, overall chair of the event, said Oplan Batang Pinoy's primary motive is to prevent leftists and rightists from sowing consternation in the twice-shelved conclave.

"Definitely, the games will push through despite thé political crisis the country is experiencing. To ensure the smooth flow of the event, the PSC has installed safeguards to protect the athletes from unexpected circumstances," said Ramirez.

He added the PSC would closely coordinate with the local government of Laguna to put in effect the said endeavor.

The BP Games was put in a freezer twice last year—October and December—after the PSC, the financial arm of the government in sports, was hampered by a series of typhoons that whipped the country in the past year.

But the delay has taken a positive turn as more than 61 local government units have confirmed their participation in the games which will be held at the RECS Sports Complex in Sta. Cruz, Laguna.

Meanwhile, the Philippine Sports Talent Identification Program (PSTIP) has started its nationwide search for talented athletes especially in the countryside.

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

TENNIS: Australian Open, Elimination Round at 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. (r -2 p.m.) on Sky Cable 17

ATP World Series Tournament – Qatar Open 2001, Finals at 7:30 p.m. (r) on Star Sports

BASKETBALL: US NCAA - Clemson Tigers vs North Carolina Tar Heels at 8 a.m. (replay at 4:30 p.m.), Wake Forest Demon Deacons vs Maryland Terrapins at 10 a.m. on ESPN

GOLF: Nedbank Golf Challenge 2000, Final Day at 8 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

Golfglobe 2001 at 11:30 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

Free ride

WHAT CAN I SAY

Bebo Quiros

STAKES RACES BY CLUB IN YEAR 2000

CLUB DAYS	STAKES STAKES	NO. OF PRIZE	STAKES (TOTAL)
PRCI	16	26	13,589,153.04
MJCI	16	22	15,353,291.52
TOTAL	32	50	28,942,444.56

STAKES RACES BY SPONSORS IN YEAR 2000

CLUB	PHILRACOM-SPONSORED	MJCI-SPONSORED	PRCI SPONSORED	MARHO-SPONSORED	PHILTOBO-SPONSORED	PCSO-SPONSORED	STAKES PRIZE (TOTAL)
MJCI	13 8,168,000.00* 10,148,291.52#	3 1,300,000.00	0	0	0	6 3,905,000.00	15,353,291.52
PRCI	10 7,088,000.00* 8,777,743.75#		2 626,499.17	6 5,600,000.00	4 1,125,000.00* 2,198,020.12#	6 1,586,890.00	13,589,153.04
TOTAL	23 15,25,000.00* 18,926,035.27#	3	2 626,499.17	6 5,600,000.00	4 1,815,000.00* 2,698,020.12#	12 5,491,890.00	28,942,444.56

NOTE: The prize money below the number of stakes races sponsored by an entity with an asterisk is Added to the Prize of the Day, while the ones with # are the Total Prizes.

Prepared by: (Sgd) ARISTEO V. MACASERO
1/11/2001

THE figures we present were provided by the Philracom. It bolsters our traditional belief that the racing clubs are the biggest beneficiaries of sponsorship by long time industry benefactors, such as the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO)and the industry guardian, the Philippine Racing Commission (Philracom). The Metropolitan Association of Race Horse Owners (Marho) and the Philippine Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Organization (Philtobo) are new to the sponsorship game.

Before the Philracom was created, post-war horseowners depended on the PCSO for the majority of stakes races calendared for every racing year. When the Philracom was organized in the 70's, innovative stakes races were inked into the calendar, the logic for most of which races were largely dependent on the character and the wisdom of the Philracom chair then employed.

Of the Philracom races that have withstood change and somehow continue to reflect sufficient tradition and class are the Triple Crown and the Challenge Series. The Marho Breeders Cup and the Philtobo Mitra Cup are recent creations. We will not belabor the fact that this industry is dependent on stakes monies provided by the Philracom (65%).

What is grossly unthinkable is that a private organization like the Marho can stage more stakes races than PRCI and MJCI put together (6 by the Marho and 5 by the two clubs combined)? What is even more absurd is that a fledgling organization like Philtobo provided more stakes monies than either of the two clubs (P2.6 MM by Philtobo, P1.3MM by MJCI and P626K by PRCI).

SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ■ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

Winfield, Puckett to Hall of Fame

NEW YORK—Dave Winfield and Kirby Puckett were elected Tuesday to the Hall of Fame on their first try, becoming the fourth pair of teammates picked by baseball writers in the same year. Winfield, who had 3,110 hits and 465 home runs, and Puckett, whose All-Star career was cut short by glaucoma, played together on the Minnesota Twins in 1993-94. "The best thing I can say about (Puckett)—and I played with a lot of guys _ was that he's the most positive person I played with on a daily basis," Winfield said from his home in the Los Angeles area. *AP*

Kasparov, Anand halve point

WIJK AAN ZEE, Netherlands—Newly crowned Fide world champion Viswanathan Anand of India outplayed former world champion Garry Kasparov of Russia, but could only get a draw against Kasparov's resourceful defense in round three of the Corus Chess Tournament Tuesday. With the black pieces, Anand chose the popular Archangel Variation of the Ruy Lopez. Standings after three rounds: Kasparov, Morozevich 2.5; Anand, Kramnik, Shirov, Timman 2; Adams, Ivanchuk, Leko 1.5; Fedorov, Topalov 1; Piket, Tivlakov, Van Wely 0.5. *AP*

Delasin to receive top PSA award tonight

Dorothy is athlete of the year

THE PHILIPPINE Sportswriters Association honors the country's top sports achievers in year 2000 tonight with Fil-Am golfer Dorothy Delasin leading the distinguished list of awardees as PSA Athlete of the Year in the annual PSA Awards at the Holiday Inn Manila.

Delasin, 20, arrived yesterday from San Francisco, played a round of golf with friends, supporters and members of the PSA at the Riviera and is scheduled to spearhead this morning the donation of ABS Bitter Herbs products worth P500,000 to local beneficiaries at the Quezon City Hall.

Remarkable campaign

"It's great to be back and I'd like to thank the Filipino people who have supported my campaign on the LPGA Tour," said Delasin, who won the coveted PSA award on the strength of her remarkable rookie campaign on the US LPGA Tour last year.

President Estrada has been invited to be guest of honor and award the PSA top plum to Delasin in the 7 p.m. affair.

Also to be feted are seven other major awardees, including World Boxing Council flyweight champion Malcolm Tuñacao, GM Bong Villamayor, racing championAngelo Barretto, pro cager Danny Ildefonso, amateur cager Ren-Ren Ritualo, amateur golfer Gerard Cantada and physically-challenged powerlifter Angeline Dumapong.

Invitations

PSA president Lito Tacujan said invitations to the event sponsored by Red Bull and Agfa and supported by McDonald's, could be obtained at the PSA reception.

The affair, exclusively for PSA members and their guests, will be telecast on a later date by Viva-Vintage Television over IBC 13.

The rest of the awardees are : Olympians Roberto Cruz, Eva Marie Ditan, Jasmin Stachan, Donald David Geisler, Larry Semillano, Romeo Brin, Arlan Lerio, Danilo Lerio, Lerma Bualuitan, Eduardo Buenavista, Jennifer Chan, Toni Leviste, Benjie Tolentino, Rasheya Jasmin Ruiz, Miguel Mendoza, Carlo Piccio, Jenny Rose Guerrero, Liza Danila, Zardo Domenios, Sheila Mae Perez and paralympian Andres Lubin;

The San Miguel Beermen, the San Juan Knights, the La Salle Green Archers, Mark Paragua, horse Silver Story, Jennifer Rosales, Gerard Cantada, Paul del Rosario, Philip Alvendia, Glenn Aguilar and the men's chess Olympiad team;

Football's Kasibulan 6-12, the Sporting Edge Management Group, Philippine Tot Baseball Foundation Inc., Puyat Sports, Dance Sports of the Philippines;

Red Bull, McDonald's, Agfa, Milo, Adidas, Coke Go for Goal, Holiday Inn and the organizers of the World Volleyball Grand Prix;

Teddy Benigno, Rod Reyes, Virgilio Pantaleon, Enrique Romualdez, Ernie Singson, Taby Tabaniag and Tito Perez de Tagle, who are seven of the founding members of the PSA.

Posthumous awards

Posthumous awards will also be given to taekwondo jin Gerald Pingoy, Francisco Vestil, member of the Philippine basketball teram which finished 12th in the 1948 London Olympics, Justiniano Montano, former president of the World Boxing Council and noted boxing trainer Toti Sangalang.

DELASIN arrives with her father, Sonny (foreground), at the Naia yesterday morning.
ROGER MARGALLO

WINDSHIELD
OPEN ON SUNDAYS
CRACK REPAIR Atbp...
U.S. Pat.
LTO APPROVED!
NOT REPLACEMENT!
- CLEANS CAR AIRCON W/O DISASSEMBLY (US)
- CRACKS MORE THAN 24" LONG, GUARANTEED!
RESTORES VISIBILITY 75-90% STRENGTH 100%
- REPAIRS WINDSHIELD SCRATCH, LEAKS & DEFOGGER
CALL NOW BEFORE ITS TOO LATE!
MANILA MIDWEST #40 Kalayaan Ave., Q.C. or 820 Edsa, Makati City
#7 Perpetual Ave., Perpetual 8, Bacoor (infront of SM along Kawit Rd.)
Q.C. 435-6391/926-6829 Mktl. 472-8525/851-0062
Bacoor 417-5332 Or See Any Yellow Pages under Glass
CEBU - 233.5276 • DAVAO 221.5329 • ILO-ILO 337.3782 • CDO 724.768
ISABELA 624.2583 • BAGUIO 447.2724 • BACOLOD 435.1889
DO HOME SERVICE Bring this ad for P150 OFF Exp. 6/30/01
Website.http://members.aol.com/hitecom

HAIR So REAL
YOU'LL FORGET YOU'RE BALD!

Svenson International offers a natural and effective answer to baldness: a hair replacement that looks so real, you'll forget you're bald! The **Cosmetic Transdermal Reconstruction (CTR)** uses the very latest technology in hair replacement. The CTR creates the cosmetic appearance of hair growing right from your scalp. It blends perfectly with your own hair so you can treat it as your own! You can wash or style it with ease without any worry of dislodging, unlike embarrassingly loose wigs and toupees that's so obvious you're merely hiding your baldness.

If you don't want to look much older because of your bald spot, then get your hair back naturally at Svenson.

Call or visit us now!

Svenson
INTERNATIONAL
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD

MAKATI
Solid Mills Bldg., dela Rosa St.
817-2260 • 817-2194
QUEZON CITY
Cedar Executive Bldg., Timog Avenue
372-6631 • 372-6632
BINONDO
Federal Tower Bldg., Dasmariñas St.
243-0128 • 244-6913
ALABANG
Citibank-Frabelle Bldg., Alabang-Zapote Rd.
842-1389 • 842-4181
CEBU
Keppel Centre, Cebu City
032-2340851 • 032-2340853
Certified by ASI Asian Society of Trichology
MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SATURDAY (8 AM - 3 PM)

DIABETIC?
WHY GO through BITTER ORDEAL of DRINKING AMPALAYA
Bittertaste? Boiling? Inconvenience of drinking?
NOW YOU can have CONVENIENT AMPALAYA or M. CHARANTIA CAPSULE
With other potent vegetable herbs.
ABS BITTER HERBS
BFAD FR-24465
P8.00/cap
TESTIMONIAL:
My son MIKKO AMARILLO 10 yrs. old is a juvenile Diabetic (insulin dependent) since he was 6 yrs. old With continous taking of 3 capsules per day after meal of ABS Bitter Herbs for a month his insulin injection before bedtime decreased gradually from 57 units to 36 units. ABS Bitter Herbs is an effective compliment to my son's medication.
MA. TERESA AMARILLO, Diliman, Quezon City
Product of ABS • GEN International
AVAILABLE NATIONWIDE AT SELECTED
mercury drug Emart For Deliveries call: 781-11-11
GNC Live Well • New South Star Drug • SM Family Drug
ACCEPTING PROVINCIAL DEALERS
INQUIRIES: 435-00-86 • 928-30-57 • 435-88-17

HAIR LOSS?
YES! You have other alternative.
The original CTR-Cosmetic Transdermal Reconstruction, non-surgical, non-invasive process. It becomes a physical part of you, not something you wear.

Two convenient offices to serve you with 95 worldwide affiliates:
- You can swim and dive off 3 meter board
- Shower and shampoo
- Walk through a windstorm
- Dry your hair briskly, standing in front of your friends
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS
better image PHILIPPINES
CALL NOW FOR FREE CONSULTATIONS AND BROCHURES
Suite 714 Herrera Tower, 98 Herrera Cor. Valero Sts., Salcedo Village, Makati City Telephone Number: 845-0879 / 845-1663 Fax: 845-1711
Suite 401-402 Columbian Bldg. 160 West Ave., Q.C. Telephone Number: 924-1894 / 924-1895 Fax: 924-1896
THE ART OF LOOKING GOOD...JUST GOT BETTER!

Dorothy Joy sheds tears of joy

DOROTHY Joy Delasin, shedding tears of joy, expressed yesterday her gratitude to Cinnabon and Shell officials and other supporters for "having graciously helped finance my return to my roots."

The 20-year-old Delasin met the press after she played golf with her patrons that also included Toyota and Unilever officials and Lovell Gopez of Citgo, Solahart and Mizuno at Riviera.

She was joined in her flight by NGAP president Rod Feliciano, NGAP treasurer Alice Andrada, Riviera president Danny Pizarro and Cinnabon official Philip Judan representing Arben Santos.

"I cannot thank Cinnabon and Shell enough for their generosity in having facilitated my trip to the land of my roots," said Delasin, who came home with her father, Sonny, mother Salfe, two sisters and one brother.

The tournament was called "A Day with Dorothy Delasin Part 2" in a followup to its first staging in 1999 bearing the same title to recognize her feat as US Amateur champion and passing the qualifying of the US LPGA in 1998.

"I am really touched and amazed by your kindness and show of support to me and my family," said Delasin, gracing the occasion that staked a Toyota Echo Verso as a hole-in-one prize.

Her voice cracked several times and paused each time as tears streamed down her cheeks.

In one instance, Taby Tabaniag, emcee, called on the audience to give her a rousing applause. They did not only oblige; they gave Delasin a standing ovation.

She sobbed almost uncontrollably as the applause rented the air.

"I also cried the first time this tournament was held in my honor in 1999," she said. "Forgive me but I am really totally overwhelmed by your kindness. You are all so nice to me. Thank you very much."

The standing ovation lasted for minutes.

"We are honored to see our own kind gracing our shores once again, especially now that she has come home carrying big strides in the United States with her Rookie of the Year honors and her victory in one leg of the LPGA," said Cinnabon's Arben Santos, who lent his Mitsubishi Pajero for Delasin's use during her stay here.

Ray Gamboa of Shell said: "Shell is proud to become part of Dorothy's life. She is an inspiration to us and to the entire nation. We take pride in supporting her endeavors, in the same way that we also support other sports stars like those coming from chess. Truly, Dorothy is an exception because her feats in America are really spectacular."

Plana still up by 3 in DHL Open

THE winds blew even stronger yesterday but Jun Jun Plana's resolve was firm enough to withstand the challenge.

Playing cautiously in the face of the tougher conditions in the second round, Plana was all too glad to escape with the slightest damage and keep his three-stroke lead in the sixth DHL Amateur Open golf championship after a two-over-par 74.

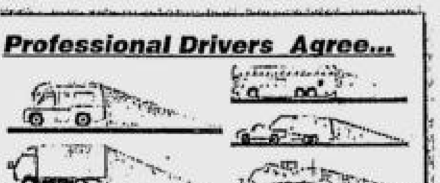
The vicious blower of the Canlubang south course did not allow anybody to score under par with club bet Boyet Zaragosa submitting the best score of even-par 72 to join top seed Angelo Que and Juvic Pagunsan in second spot three strokes off Plana who was at 143.

Que carded a second straight 73 while Pagunsan scored a 74.

Jong Arcano

clarion
SUPPORTS SAFE DRIVING
Fasten your seatbelts
Getting The Clear Picture-Rear Vision System
You are in control, Clarion is your helping hand

SECURITY BACK-EYE
External Camera
Dashboard Monitor
Professional Drivers Agree...



Loads and vehicles themselves are important, but nothing is more important than people's safety. Surround Sight acts as a reliable, safety assistant for less than the cost of most car accessories. For professional drivers Surround Sight is a powerful tools for safe driving.
Incredibly Clarion-- You'd better believe it!
FM/AM Radio CD Cassette, CD Changer Control 4 x 45 w
12 Disc CD Changer "Twin Six"
Windshield Antenna
FM/AM Radio CD, DCP 4 x 45w
FM/AM Radio Cassette, DCP 4 x 35w
24 Volts
FM/AM Radio Cassette 4 x 30w
SERVICE CENTER • 97 Mc Arthur Highway, Marulas, Valenzuela City ☎ 444-3942 / 444-4980 / 291-6587 • 77 Cordillera St., Quezon City ☎ 732-8010 / 732-8012 • Level 3 Prime Block, Tutuban Ctr. Manila ☎ 450-3415
clarion IS SOUND CLEAR AND CRISP SOUND
WARNING: Only units purchased in the Philippines with validated Philippine Warranty Card will be serviced.

Agojo surges ahead

THE PHILIPPINES' Jayvee Agojo scored a 73 yesterday to take the first round lead in the fourth PLDT Philippine International Junior Championship at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club's East course.

But she has to share the limelight with a veteran Thai and a young Indonesian as the country's top international junior event organized by the Philippine Junior Golf Federation went into its second day.

Sae-ung Witatwat, a 19-year-old Bangkok bet, carded a 75 to wrest the Special Division lead from Indonesia's Lim Setiawan. Together with his first day 78, Witatwat will go into today's third round at 153.

Alexander Solomon Sitompul, a 10-year-old first timer and a Sekolah Tiara Bangasa sixth grader in Jakarta, came up with an eagle-aided 69 to take a two-shot lead over Guam's Eugene Park in the boys' Class D.

That 73 gave Ms Agojo a four-stroke lead over Australia's Jennifer Fox and 10 big shots ahead of Anya Tanpinco, her compatriot from Bacolod City.

"Jayvee has a very good start," said Edgardo "Boy" Cantada, president of the organizing Philippine Junior Golf Federation. "If she can maintain her form, she has a chance to rule the division for girls 13-17 years old."

South Korea's Kim Jin Woong made a 74 to go with an earlier 75 to retain the boys'. Class B with 149. Sri Lanka's Amrith de Soysa made a 78 to keep second place at 157.

The Philippine Daily Distance Telephone Co. is the tournament's title sponsor.

Other major backers are Cebu Pacific, Milo, Outback Steakhouse, Pisanti Golf, Morelia Tours and Travel, Bingo Bonanza, Bi Won Korean Restaurant-Pasay City, Mitsubitshi Motors, Herma Group of Companies, Edsa Shangri-La, Philippine Flour Mills, Apo Vinyl Tiles." UCPB General Insurance, Rizal Rep. Gilberto Duavit, Toyota Otis, General Aggregates and Concrete Inc.

Peewee's drive tries to take off

PASAY City Mayor Peewee Trinidad last week launched an "all-out war" and ordered the city police to "hit hard" and round up people involved in illegal gambling. For starters, police raided a *sakla* joint and seized bets and gambling paraphernalia. But, said a city hall statement, "no one was apprehended as the gambling operator and players were tipped off by a lookout."

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Bakers' joyride a smash

FIVE bakery workers in Baesa, Quezon City were drinking when one of them suggested taking their unidentified boss's van for a "test-drive" early Tuesday morning. They piled into the van and were already on Quirino Highway when they slammed into a truck, injuring all five. Police are trying to confirm if they meant to run away with the van.

Philip C. Tubeza

Usec Santiago accused of poking gun at noise barrage participant

BY CARLITO PABLO

A FORMER defense official yesterday accused Interior Undersecretary Narciso Santiago Jr. of poking a shotgun at him Tuesday night, just hours after the Senate impeachment court voted 11-10 against the opening of sealed documents said to contain President Estrada's secret account with Equitable PCI Bank.

But Santiago denied that he carried a gun, much more a shotgun, and that he poked one at former defense assistant secretary Ruben Carranza during a noise barrage in front of the Santiago residence on Maalindog Street in UP Village, Quezon City.

Santiago's wife Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago is one of the 11 senator-judges who voted against the opening of the sealed documents.

Carranza yesterday said he would file charges of grave threats against Santiago.

Carranza said he and a number of the neighbors of the Santiagos Tuesday night drove around the village honking their car horns to protest the Senate vote.

He said that at about 11:45 p.m., Santiago came out of his house accompanied by an armed guard to confront the protesters. He said Santiago had an argument with his neighbor Jose Logarta.

Carranza said Santiago was in an undershirt and had a pistol tucked in his waist. He said the senator's husband was also carrying a shotgun.

"I saw them arguing and I tried to pacify them by telling Mr. Logarta that arguing with Santiago was not worth our gas," Carranza said.

He claimed that Santiago poked the shotgun at his face and shouted, "*Tarantado ka* (You're a fool)."

Santiago said he was in a T-shirt and short pants and had a baton in his pocket, not a gun.

"I'm so fat, how could I tuck a gun in my waist," he said.

He said he came out to check on three cars that parked in front of their house after protesters honked their horns and cursed the senator. He said a man with long, pony-tailed hair alighted from one of the cars and asked to talk to the senator.

Santiago said he told the man the senator was sleeping and politely asked them to leave. But he said Carranza, who was about 10 meters away from them, shouted at his pony-tailed companion not to waste his time talking to Santiago.

Santiago said he told the pony-tailed man in Filipino, "That man is so rude. We are talking peacefully here."

Carranza said he introduced himself as a lawyer and a former official of the Department of National Defense but Santiago ignored him. He said Santiago replied, "I don't care." Carranza said he left to avoid trouble.

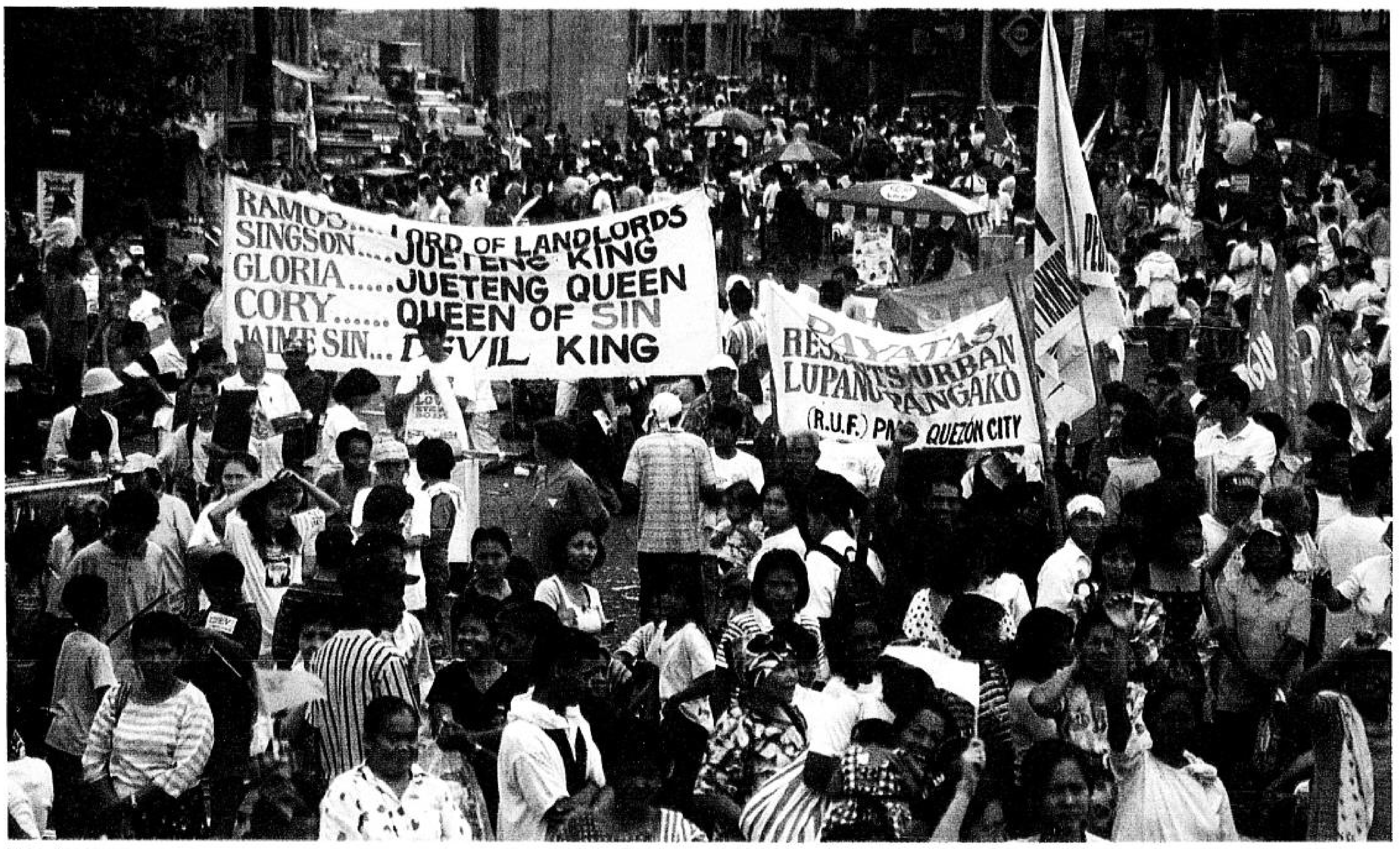
At about 1 a.m. yesterday, the Central Police District director, Chief Supt. Victor Luga, arrived at the Santiago residence with anti-riot policemen to disperse the crowd.

"The protesters then dispersed and simply went home because they all live in the same village," Carranza said.

He said he resigned last December as defense assistant secretary for plans and programs in protest of the anomalies hounding the Estrada administration.

Carranza is also said to be the lawyer of the militant group *Akbayan*, which had been served a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) by a Quezon City Court to stop holding rallies in front of the Santiago house.

SANTIAGO



THE OTHER SIDE

MIKE ALQUINTO

People from different parts of Metro Manila, who insist on believing that President Estrada is not guilty as charged in the impeachment trial, hold their own rally on Don Chino Roces (Mendiola) near the presidential palace.

Erap supporters gather on Mendiola

BY JEROME ANING AND AGNES E. DONATO

PRO-ESTRADA supporters flocked to the foot of the Don Chino Roces (formerly Mendiola) Bridge near Malacañang to "protect" the President.

In Quezon City, about 700 Estrada supporters kept vigil in front of Camp Crame.

The pro-Estrada rallies were held even as police tightened security in all vital communication, power and transportation installations in southern Metro Manila in anticipation of mounting people power protests.

The Estrada followers on Don Chino Roces vowed to protect Malacañang and the President from "First Quarter Storm Part II" which opposition and militant groups vowed to launch following the standoff in the impeachment trial.

They said they would not leave the bridge or yield it to anti-Estrada groups.

The protesters arrived as early as late Tuesday night. Most came from poor communities in Tondo and Paço in Manila; Payatas and North Triangle in Quezon City;

ERAP/ p A20

NOT ENTERTAINMENT, the Estrada impeachment trial brings out the militant in movie star Rosanna Roces.

Erap 'devil,' 11 no senators 'devil's advocates' – Osang

BY LEAH SALTERIO

MOVIE star Rosanna Roces yesterday added her voice to the anti-Erap clamor when she denounced President Estrada and the 11 senators who voted against opening the Equitable-PCI Bank envelope in the ongoing impeachment trial.

In an open letter she wrote in Filipino, Roces called Estrada a devil and the senators as the devil's advocates.

"Don't ask us why we liken Erap to the devil," Roces wrote. "You, our beloved senators, are the devil's advocates who sow evil in our country)."

She said she, too, was disappointed at the decision of the 11 senators to prevent the opening of the envelope which is said to contain evidence of Estrada's ill-gotten riches.

"You," she told the senators, "taught us that what is wrong can be right.

"How much were you paid for your principles?"

Roces, who became very popular for baring her body in her earlier movies, said she was moved by the scene at the senate Monday night when Sen. Nene Pimentel resigned as president.

"I rarely see men who cry," she said. "I know that when a man cries, it is a sign of love and courage."

She also singled out Sen. Juan Flavier for his bravery. She said the short lawmaker "became taller than Senators (Ramon) Revilla, (John) Osmeña, (Robert) Jaworski."

Roces also joined the crowd at the Edsa Shrine yesterday.

Antipolo residents dump garbage in front of DILG, MMDA offices

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

RESIDENTS of Antipolo, Rizal on Tuesday dumped garbage in front of the Quezon City offices of the Department of Interior and Local Government and the Metro Manila Development Authority to protest the violent dispersal of protesters in Antipolo before dawn Sunday.

"The trash you dumped would come back to you," about 20 protesters shouted as they unloaded trash in black plastic bags on the steps of the MMDA and DILG offices near the corner of Edsa and East Avenue.

The protesters were joined by members of Sanlakas and the Kongreso ng Pagkakaisa ng Maralitang Lungsod (KPML) in a picket at about 11:30 a.m. Tuesday.

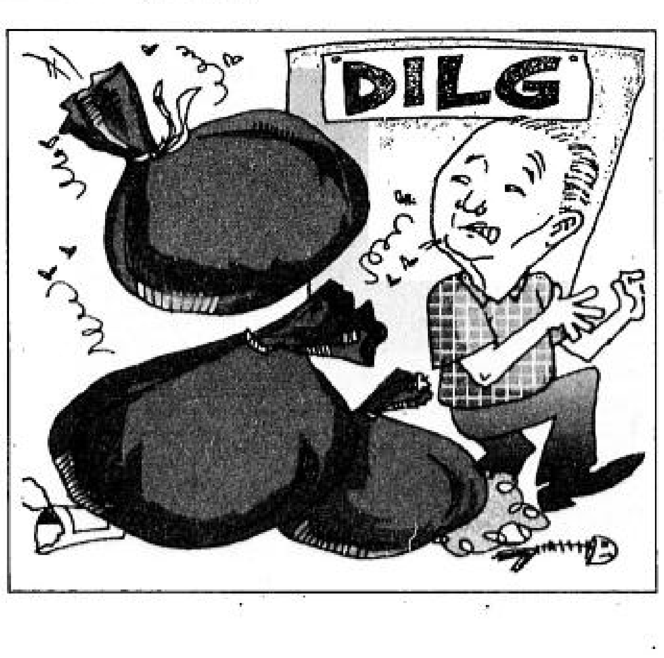
They lambasted Interior Secretary Alfredo Lim for the "treacherous dispersal" of protesters in Masinag, Antipolo on Sunday. About 400 policemen used water cannon to break up the barricades.

The protesters also scored MMDA chair Jejomar Binay for "sleeping on the job."

They blamed Binay for failing to find a viable alternative to the San Mateo Sanitary Landfill, also in Rizal province, and for reneging on an agreement he made with Rizal officials to permanently close the dumpsite on Dec. 31.

Protester Joel Pontawe accused Binay of "repeatedly breaking his word" that he would close the San Mateo landfill, and then "breaking the backs of protesters" when they tried to make him fulfill his promise.

"Dump Lim and Binay," the protesters cried.



Wazzzup?!!

8th day bar • cafe ST. FRANCIS SQ. ORTIGAS CTR.	NTWINE	NO MINIMUM CHARGE 634.7696/634.7698
AUDIOTORIUM 28 WEST AVE., QUEZON CITY	ROB	374.2330/373.5574
Cowboy Grill BGY. ALMANZA, LAS PINAS	HIMIG KNIGHTS	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎801.7644
Cowboy Grill 1190 ARQUIZA ST., MABINI, MLA.	GOALKEYS MIX UP/PRYZM	NO ENTRANCE FEE 525.1474/525.4269
Cowboy Grill 417 REMEDIOS ST., MALATE, MLA	HOMOSAPIENS ENSEMBLES	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎521.8143
Cowboy Grill NOVALICHES, QUEZON CITY	SAINTS FEEDBACK	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎453.4329
[illegible] YALE ST. COR AURORA, CUBAO	GLADYS & D' BOXERS SURPRISE BAND	P50 ENTRANCE FEE ☎913.7202
KAMPO 2086 #47 WEST AVENUE Q. C.	AEGIS K.O. JONES/FIGURE 8	P200 CONSUMABLE 411.9931/926.1260
EXAMINER'S LITE n' LIVE #52 EXAMINER ST., Q.C.	DON LOC/7TH SOUL	HAPPY HOUR 6-9PM P50 ENTRANCE FEE
LIVE! at the ridge 206A KATIPUNAN RD., Q.C.	ACOUSTIC JIVE	P200 CONSUMABLE ☎439.3255
PADIS POINT MANILA [illegible]	RIDGE	NO ENTRANCE FEE 527.6180/527.6211
TIA MARIA'S REMEDIOS COR CAROLINA, MALATE	PART-E E-MERGE	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎522.0429

[illegible]

Cowboy Grill BINAN, LAGUNA	SERSIDE BROWNIE	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎(049)511.7268
Ka Freddie Music Restaurant MARCOS HIGHWAY, ANTIPOLO	NONOY BAJAR ANTONETTE	P20 ENTRANCE FEE ☎677.0795
[illegible] SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA	RAISA CAYABYAB YING-YANG	BLAKDYAK - JAN 20 TRUE FAITH - JAN 27

THURSDAY JANUARY 18 [illegible]

3 overstaying aliens nabbed

By Gerald G. Lacuarta

TALK about sleeping with the enemy.

Three overstaying Koreans were arrested by immigration agents in units they were renting in a building in Malate, Manila where no less than the commissioner of the Bureau of Immigration (BI) lives.

Immigration Commissioner Rufus Rodriguez yesterday said he ordered the Koreans arrested after their presence was reported to him last week by security guards and other tenants in the building, which he did not identify for security reasons.

Rodriguez identified the overstaying Koreans as Park Jong Woo, Park Choong Won and Hur San Wook, who are now detained in the immigration jail in Bicutan.

"The arrest of these Koreans should serve as a warning to other illegal aliens that they cannot evade arrest and deportation by taking refuge near the place of residence of their immigration commissioner," Rodriguez said.

He said he immediately issued a mission order for the arrest of the Koreans after he confirmed that the aliens were already overstaying in the country.

It was learned that the arresting agents also found other Koreans residing in the building, but their papers were found to be in order.

Rodriguez said the three overstaying Koreans would be flown to Seoul this week in accordance with the deportation order issued against them by the BI board of commissioners.

Investigation showed that Park Jong Woo arrived in Manila on Nov. 24, 2000 but did not extend his visa after his authorized stay expired in December.

Park Choong Won arrived July 17 and had his visa extended only until Dec. 8.

Hur Sang Wook arrived on Aug. 11 but he did not bother to extend his stay.

Rodriguez said all three Koreans were already blacklisted and banned from reentering the Philippines.

Manila updates evacuation SOP

MAYOR Lito Atienza has directed the Manila Disaster Coordinating Council to update standard operating procedures for the orderly evacuation of people from buildings and other public places during emergencies.

Atienza said administration and security personnel of various private and public facilities should implement an orderly evacuation to prevent panic and confusion that are likely to hurt people in their haste to flee an area during bomb threats, fires and earthquakes.

"In emergency situations, people tend to panic if there is no one guiding them toward safety or if they are completely unaware of procedures for orderly evacuation," said the mayor, who is MDCC chair.

He said the public is still jittery over the Dec. 30 bombings.

Tuesday, a bomb scare gripped the Light Rail Transit's Pedro Gil station in Manila and the Ever-Gotesco mall, causing panic among commuters and shoppers. *Jerome Aning*

Munti launches cancer drive

THE CITY Health Office (CHO) of Muntinlupa recently launched a cancer awareness drive as part of the observance of the city's Cancer Awareness Week.

Mayor Jaime Fresnedi said the local government launched the drive to make the city's residents aware of cancer symptoms, including wounds that refuse to heal, extraordinary menstrual bleeding, cysts in different parts of the body particularly the breasts, indigestion, frequent cough, unexplained loss of weight and blood (anemia), among others.

CHO Muntinlupa was earlier recognized by the Department of Health (DOH) for its National Tuberculosis Program campaign.

Salterio, 90

ENRIQUETA G. Salterio died Jan. 15. She was 90.

She is survived by her children – Alfonso and Mely Salterio, Ester and Juanito Soler, Linda and Pete Soler, Jaime, and Rene and Zeny Salterio – grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Her body lies at the Salterio's residence at 204 Malaya St., United San Pedro Subdivision, San Antonio, San Pedro, Laguna.

Interment is tomorrow, Friday, at the San Pedro Cemetery.

UST 'Baile'

"BAILE del Jubileo," a dinner-dance that is one of the highlights of the 75th anniversary of the University of Sto. Tomas College of Science, will be held tomorrow, Friday, at 7 p.m. at the Luzon Ballroom of the Westin Philippine Plaza, Pasay City.

Registration for the event will start at 6 p.m., according to the UST College of Science Alumni Association Inc. (USTCSAA), which is hosting the Baile del Jubileo in cooperation with Unlimited Q-nexions.

The affair, which features live band entertainment with the Rubberband and balladeer Nonoy Zuñiga, will also be the venue for the launching of the USTCSAA scholars for the benefit of underprivileged but deserving students.

Tickets for the affair are available at the USTCSAA office, tel. no. 731-57-28, or at the reception area of the Baile during registration.

Police capture sixth suspect in Roselyn Federico rape-slay

By Agnes E. Donato

THE SIXTH suspect in the 1993 rape and murder of Roselyn Federico in Marikina City is now in the custody of the Eastern Police District.

Police arrested Melvin Magbanua, 27, in Barangay Mayha, Udiongan, Romblon during the weekend.

Magbanua's neighbors turned him over to the EPD Criminal Investigation and Detection Group.

The Department of Interior and Local Government had offered a P100,000-reward for any information leading to Magbanua's capture.

Magbanua on Tuesday was presented before Judge Erlinda Uy of the Pasig City Regional Trial Court Branch 162, where he was charged with rape with homicide.

He denied the charges, saying he had never set foot in Marikina. But he admitted having worked as a welder in the neighboring town of Cainta in Rizal.

During interrogation, he reportedly admitted to police that he was involved in the rape of a 15-year-old girl in Cainta in 1997.

He allegedly spent six months in jail for the crime, officials said.

His neighbors also claimed Magbanua would always brag about having been involved in a celebrated rape case each time he got drunk.

But a check with Cainta police showed that no one named Magbanua was imprisoned for rape during that time.

Magbanua reportedly went into hiding in Romblon province after Federico's body was found in Barangay Parang in Marikina on July 7, 1993.

But Magbanua, who became a farmer, claimed he went to the province after he was released from prison in 1997.

Police earlier arrested Edwin Habla, Ramon de la Paz, Zaldy de la Paz, Adorable de la Paz, Joel Berlon and Allan Florentino.

Habla decided to stand as a witness against the five others.

The court initially cleared the suspects when the prosecution reportedly failed to prove their guilt.

But the Supreme Court overturned that ruling on the ground that the lower court made a procedural mistake in handling the case.

The rape-slay case has been reopened and is now in the sala of Judge Uy.

Mindanaons are proud of Nene

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

NOW all know why President Erap strutted around like a peacock while the sword of Damocles—the impeachment case against him—was hanging over his head. He had the look of over-confidence and smugness.

And his over-confidence was not without basis. The President had 11 senator-judges in his pocket.

With the sword of Damocles gone, Mr. Estrada will now train the same sword on his political enemies and critics.

***

It's vendetta time for Mr. Estrada. Joseph Victor "JV" Ejercito, the President's talkative son, had warned they would go after people whom they perceived persecuted his father.

There will be many Richard Gordons among us.

***

Richard Gordon, former chair of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), was the first victim of Erap's vindictive nature when he assumed the presidency in 1998.

The first order of business of Asiong Salonga, Jose Velarde or Kelvin Garcia, was to issue an executive order relieving Gordon of his post.

The new president couldn't wait to take his revenge on Dick Gordon who, he thought, ordered the disruption of his rally in Olongapo City during the presidential campaign.

***

Mr. Estrada is not magnanimous in victory.

So, if you have incurred the ire of the President and the members of his legal and unofficial families, you are well advised to pack up your things and leave for Timbuktu, where you are out of reach of their vengeance.

***

But wait! Why would you leave when the fight is not yet over?

Even if the impeachment trial has been practically scrapped because the prosecutors from the House of Representatives no longer want to take part in the charade, the trial has shifted to the streets.

Mr. Estrada will no longer be tried by his own peers—the members of the Senate and the Chief Justice—but by the citizenry. Protest actions will escalate every day until he steps down.

***

Yes, Mr. President, the people holding protests against you are not members of your ignorant *masa* and therefore are in the minority.

But, remember, Mr. President, the crowd at the Edsa in 1986 that protected Enrile, Ramos and company from the Marcos war machine was predominantly middle class and upper class.

The poor, ignorant masses were for Marcos at the time. But they bowed to the wishes of the minority crowd at Edsa. The poor, ignorant Filipinos, just like their counterparts in other countries, are like herded cattle that follow the dictates of their intellectual superiors.

***

All revolutions, whether bloody or bloodless (Edsa was an example of a bloodless revolution), were all led by intellectuals who belonged to the middle or upper class.

Jose Rizal, who planted the seeds of the Philippine Revolution, was a product of the middle class. Emilio Aguinaldo, the leader of the Philippine Revolution, belonged to the middle class.

George Washington of the American Revolution belonged to the landed gentry. Fidel Castro of Cuba belonged to a middle-class family.

***

Can you mention, Mr. President, anybody from the lower class who has led a successful revolution? If you read history books (which you admittedly don't), you would have said none.

So, stop flaunting your ignorant *masa*. Yes, the masses elect national and local leaders because of their sheer number, but they go with the tide.

And the tide of intelligent public opinion is going against you, Mr. President.

***

Senate President Aquilino "Nene" Pimentel resigned his post in disgust over the majority decision not to open the second envelope. The second envelope would have shown that the President had more bank accounts.

Many citizens thought Pimentel was pro-Erap because the President stood as godfather in his son's wedding. But they were proved wrong: The Senator from Cagayan de Oro City is a very principled man.

Nene Pimentel has done his fellow Mindanaoans proud.

***

Sen. Blas Ople, a former Senate president, was a disappointment to a lot of citizens.

They thought Ople would vote intelligently because he is an intellectual giant.

Perhaps his advanced years have done him in.

***

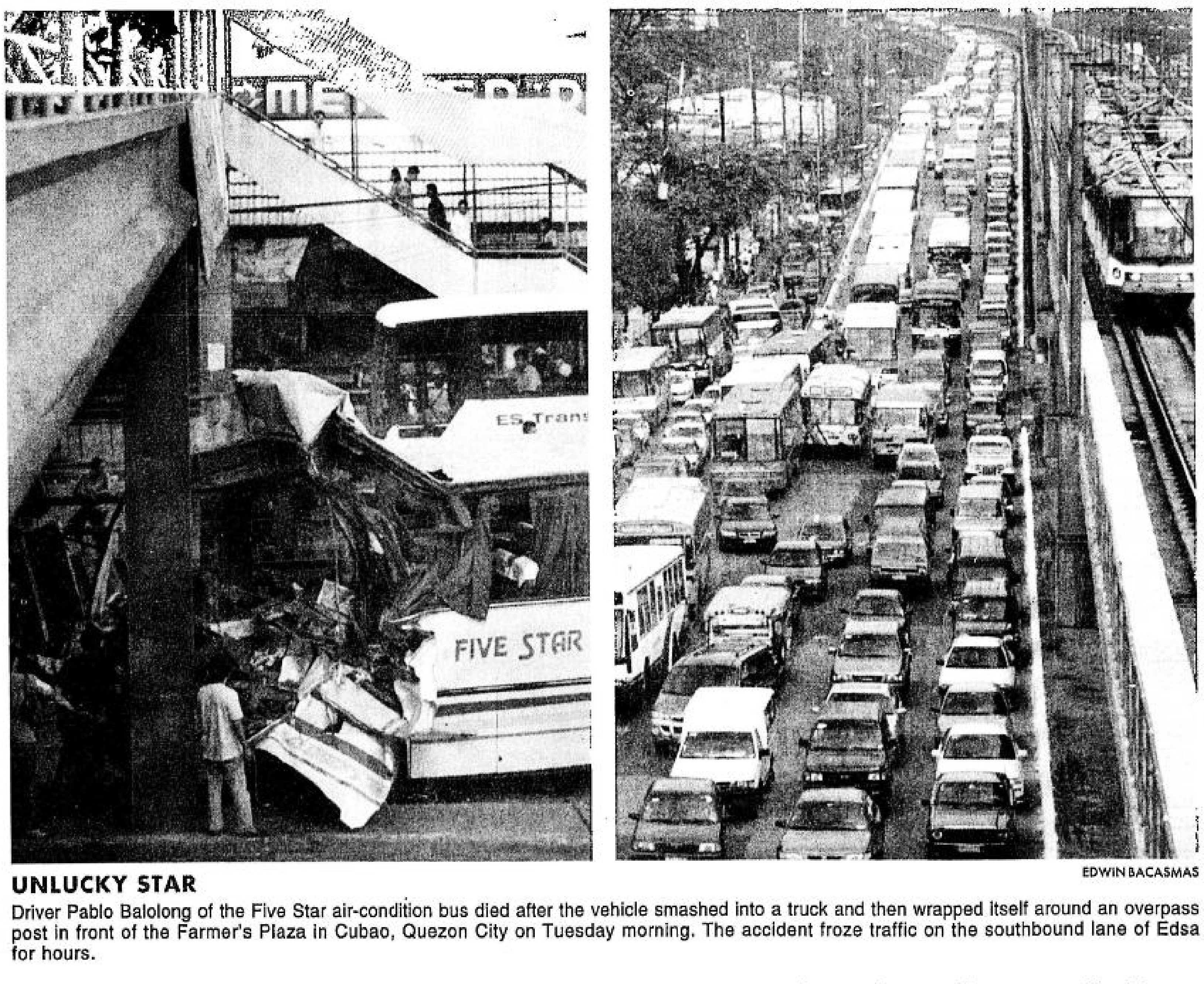
Sen. Ramon Revilla, he of the *anting-anting* or *agimat* fame — the ignorant masses voted for him because they think he has an *anting-anting*, voted as expected by many intelligent people.

Revilla doesn't think and act like a statesman that a senator is supposed to do.

Instead, like his fellow former actor he thinks he's still in the movies.

A few days ago, Revilla acted out the role of a *butangero* when he beat up a driver who bumped his Mercedes Benz.

No matter how you dress a monkey, he will still be a monkey.



EDWIN BACASMAS

UNLUCKY STAR

Driver Pablo Balolong of the Five Star air-condition bus died after the vehicle smashed into a truck and then wrapped itself around an overpass post in front of the Farmer's Plaza in Cubao, Quezon City on Tuesday morning. The accident froze traffic on the southbound lane of Edsa for hours.

Vice mayor comes to Asistio aid

By Christian V. Esguerra

CALOOCAN Vice Mayor Oscar Malapitan yesterday accused Mayor Reynaldo Malonzo of using administration Councilor Edgar Erice to get back at Rep. Luis "Baby" Asistio, who was accused of bribing the poor with sacks of rice as part of his campaign strategy.

Asistio would be running for mayor against Malonzo in the local elections four months from now.

"Surveys say Asistio would likely win mayoral race over Malonzo. So the mayor is trying to hit the congressman, not directly, but through his allies," Malapitan told the INQUIRER.

"Malonzo is afraid to be beaten by Asistio. His performance was bad."

But Erice, perceived to be a leading congressional candidate, told the lawmaker to discipline his controversial sons "Peting" and "Pachot" before he runs for mayor against Malonzo, who is seeking his third and last term.

"They (administration) should stop picking on Asistio. It's a good thing that he's using his links with Malacañang to help Caloocan residents," Malapitan said.

But Erice said that nobody can use him.

"I speak my own mind. Nobody can use me. It's he (Malapitan) who's being used by the Asistios. Baby even gave him 1,000 sacks of rice for distribution to residents as part of Asistio's campaign," Erice said.

The councilor criticized the opposition for claiming that Malonzo is afraid to face Asistio in the mayoral race.

"They're always saying that. But no Asistio has ever won over Malonzo. Baby Asistio will not win since he does not have any accomplishment. The same goes with Malapitan," he said.

"Baby and Malapitan are both traditional politicians," Erice added.

Malonzo takes pride in being the only politician to end the Asistio political dynasty in Caloocan, which began over 30 years ago. He did it in 1995 when he beat Macario "Boy" Asistio Jr.

Caloocan City fire starter hunted

POLICE are hunting down a still unidentified fire starter who is responsible for burning an orphanage and a jeepney in Caloocan City beginning last week.

The arsonist on Tuesday set on fire a jeepney parked near an orphanage, which was also intentionally burned last week, in Bagumbong, Caloocan, police said.

No one was reported injured in both incidents.

Case investigator PO2 Constantino Guerrero said the unidentified suspect poured kerosene on a jeepney (DAX-993) which was parked beside a barangay hall in Rainbow village, Bagumbong.

When village watcher Sevando Rivera saw that his vehicle was burning at about 2 p.m., he pushed it away from the barangay hall as the flames were already spreading toward the building, police said.

The jeepney exploded upon hitting a concrete fence, Rivera told police.

Last week, orphans at the Tahanang Mapagpala beside the hall of Barangay 171 figured in an early morning stampede after a man poured kerosene and lit the curtains of a dormitory.

Christian V. Esguerra

Erap ...

(From page A19)

Dagat-dagatan in Malabon and Navotas; Bagong Silang, Caloocan City; Dasmari□as, Cavite; San Mateo, Rizal; and San Jose del Monte, Bulacan.

"We shall defend Mr. Estrada against all forms of attack since it was us, the masses, who elected him," said Rolando Lumbao, spokesperson of the People's Movement Against Poverty.

"We will not allow the anti-Estrada groups to step on Mendiola, even if we have to defend it to death," Lumbao said in Filipino.

Police in the afternoon estimated the crowd to 3,000-strong, although Lumbao claimed it was more than 5,000 and that they expected to gather a total of 10,000 people.

Aside from the PMAP, there were also delegations from other groups such as the Kalipunan ng Sambayanan and the Erap Remain, or Reporma sa Masa Ipatupad Na.

Insp. Jesus Caesar Paranas, head of the Western Police District's Mendiola precinct, said the pro-Estrada gathering was generally peaceful except for an incident where an unidentified man, said to be mentally ill, was beaten by the crowd at about 1 p.m.

The man, who reportedly shouted anti-Estrada slogans, was able to escape the angry mob.

Paranas said about 200 policemen have been deployed around Malaca□ang.

Not leaving

The pro-Estrada crowd in front of Camp Crame was composed mostly of Quezon City residents who started arriving in 40 jeepneys about 8 a.m. They used their vehicles to block the roads, and occupied the entire front of Crame, from Boni Serrano Avenue to Annapolis Street.

Rolando de Guzman, one of the coordinators, said he and his neighbors in Barangay Kaligayahan, Novaliches, came to express support for the 11 senator-judges who voted against the opening of the second envelope.

"We should all respect the stand of the majority," De Guzman said. "It was the decision of most of the senators not to open the envelope, so it must be the right thing to do."

But De Guzman could not say exactly how long his group would stay on the streets.

"We will probably not leave as long as the President is not acquitted," he said.

At 4 p.m., one woman supporter was heard complaining to one of organizers that she was hungry.

"It is all right with us if we do not get paid, so long as there is free food," she told the Inquirer.

Another supporter, Jessie Maglente, later told the Inquirer he was promised P150 in food allowance if he agreed to join the rally.

"But I don't consider that as payment for coming here," Maglente said. "Participating in this rally is also a sacrifice on our part."

Maglente said he is paid P250 a day at the factory where he is working. *With a report from Nelson F. Flores*

SM CINEMA GUIDE

SM Dial-A-Movie • Tel. 633-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR 4173868

1	DOLBY SURROUND	LITTLE NICKY
2	DOLBY SURROUND	THE 6TH DAY
3	DOLBY DIGITAL	RED PLANET
4	DOLBY SURROUND	REMEMBER THE TITANS
5	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	HIGHLANDER
6	DOLBY SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
7	DOLBY SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
8	DOLBY SURROUND	SUPER IDOL

SM CENTERPOINT 7149522 • 7161416

1	DOLBY SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
2	DOLBY SURROUND	LEGEND OF BAGGER VANCE
3	DTS	RED PLANET
4	DOLBY SURROUND	LITTLE NICKY
5	DOLBY DIGITAL	HIGHLANDER
6	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	REMEMBER THE TITANS
7	DOLBY SURROUND	MEET THE PARENTS
8	DOLBY SURROUND	THE 6TH DAY
9	DOLBY SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
10	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SUPER IDOL

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 9350749

1	DOLBY SURROUND	SUPER IDOL
2	DOLBY SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
3	DOLBY SURROUND	PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP
4	DOLBY DIGITAL	RED PLANET
5	DOLBY SURROUND	MEET THE PARENTS
6	DOLBY SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
7	DOLBY DIGITAL	LITTLE NICKY
8	DOLBY SURROUND	HIGHLANDER
9	DOLBY SURROUND	THE 6TH DAY
10	DOLBY SURROUND	LEGEND OF BAGGER VANCE
11	DOLBY SURROUND	SPIRIT WARRIORS
12	DOLBY SURROUND	REMEMBER THE TITANS

SM CITY MANILA 5239240

1	DOLBY DIGITAL	RED PLANET
2	DOLBY DIGITAL	HIGHLANDER
3	DOLBY SURROUND	MIRACLE FIGHTER
4	DOLBY SURROUND	LITTLE NICKY
5	DOLBY DIGITAL	MEET THE PARENTS
6	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	THE 6TH DAY
7	DOLBY SURROUND	REMEMBER THE TITANS
8	DOLBY SURROUND	LEGEND OF BAGGER VANCE
9	DOLBY SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
10	DOLBY SURROUND	SPIRIT WARRIORS
11	DOLBY SURROUND	SUPER IDOL
12	DOLBY SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN

GUADALUPE COMM'L CTR 8820950

1	ULTRA SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
2	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	HIGHLANDER
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SUPER IDOL

SM MEGAMALL 6331901 • 6329401

1	DOLBY DIGITAL	PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
2	DOLBY SURROUND	MEET THE PARENTS
3	DOLBY DIGITAL	LITTLE NICKY
4	DTS	HIGHLANDER
5	DOLBY SURROUND	REMEMBER THE TITANS
6	DOLBY SURROUND	PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP
7	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP
8	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SUPER IDOL
9	DOLBY SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
10	DOLBY SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	THE 6TH DAY
12	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	LEGEND OF BAGGER VANCE

SM CITY NORTH EDSA 9295452

1	DOLBY SURROUND	SUPER IDOL
2	DOLBY SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	KANGKONG
4	DOLBY SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
5	DOLBY SURROUND	REMEMBER THE TITANS
6	DOLBY SURROUND	LITTLE NICKY
7	DTS	THE RED PLANET
8	DOLBY DIGITAL	HIGHLANDER
9	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	LEGEND OF BAGGER VANCE
10	DOLBY SURROUND	PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	MEET THE PARENTS
12	DOLBY SURROUND	THE 6TH DAY

SM SOUTHMALL 8066888 • 8066762

1	ULTRA SURROUND	REMEMBER THE TITANS
2	ULTRA SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
3	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	THE RED PLANET
4	ULTRA SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
5	ULTRA SURROUND	MEET THE PARENTS
6	ULTRA SURROUND	LEGEND OF BAGGER VANCE
7	ULTRA SURROUND	LITTLE NICKY
8	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	HIGHLANDER
9	ULTRA SURROUND	THE 6TH DAY
10	ULTRA SURROUND	SUPER IDOL

TUTUBAN CENTER 2514302

1	ULTRA SURROUND	THE RED PLANET
2	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	LITTLE NICKY
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	HIGHLANDER
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA

SM CEBU 2313876

1	DOLBY SURROUND	MARKOVA
2	ULTRA SURROUND	HIGHLANDER
3	ULTRA SURROUND	MEET THE PARENTS
4	ULTRA SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
5	ULTRA SURROUND	CROCODILE
6	ULTRA SURROUND	EMPERORS NEW GROOVE
7	DOLBY SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN

SM ILOILO 3209422

1	ULTRA SURROUND	THE 6TH DAY
2	ULTRA SURROUND	MEET THE PARENTS
3	ULTRA SURROUND	DEATH ROW
4	ULTRA SURROUND	CRACKER JACK
5	ULTRA SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
6	ULTRA SURROUND	EMPERORS NEW GROOVE
7	ULTRA SURROUND	HIGHLANDER
8	ULTRA SURROUND	LOST SOULS

SM PAMPANGA 7128015

1	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	THE RED PLANET
2	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	HIGHLANDER
3	DOLBY SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	MEET THE PARENTS
5	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	THE 6TH DAY
6	DOLBY SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA

Movies are subject to change without prior notice.

AYALA CINEMAS

NOW SHOWING

YOUR 24-HOUR LINK TO ALL AYALA CINEMAS 729 - 7777
reserve seats through www.sureseats.com

GLORIETTA 1 (formerly QUAD)

1 RED PLANET
2 TANGING YAMAN
3 BALAHIBONG PUSA
4 THE 6TH DAY

GLORIETTA 4 All Digital Sound

1 MEET THE PARENTS — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2 REMEMBER THE TITANS — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3 THE RED PLANET THX — In DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4 THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (Phil. Premiere) Art Film — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5 LEGEND OF BAGGER VANCE — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6 LITTLE NICKY — In DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7 HIGHLANDER: ENDGAME — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

GREENBELT

1 LITTLE NICKY — In DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
2 THE RED PLANET — In SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3 LEGEND OF BAGGER VANCE — In DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
4 SOON TO OPEN Onstage

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1 THE RED PLANET THX — In DSD/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
2 LITTLE NICKY — In DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3 REMEMBER THE TITANS — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4 HIGHLANDER: ENDGAME — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5 BALAHIBONG PUSA — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DDS) RED PLANET
2 (SDDS) LITTLE NICKY
3 (DTS) MEET THE PARENTS
4 GOLD (DTS) RED PLANET
5 GOLD (DOLBY) HIGHLANDER
6 GOLD (SDDS) TANGING YAMAN
7 GOLD (DOLBY) REMEMBER THE TITANS
8 [illegible] THE 6TH DAY
9 [illegible] SUPER IDOL
10 [illegible] BALAHIBONG PUSA

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486
1 SUPER IDOL
2 BALAHIBONG PUSA
3 (DTS) KANGKONG
4
5
6 (DTS)
Golden Pearl THX

Masagana CINEMAX 1-2 & 3
(Kalaw) tel 536.4315
1 (DOLBY) RED PLANET
2 (DTS) SUPER IDOL
3 LITTLE NICKY

Masagana CINEMA V
(Pasay) tel 831.6603
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA
2 SUPER IDOL
3 KANGKONG

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA
2 SUPER IDOL
3 KANGKONG
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL) RED PLANET
5 PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP

Metropolis
(Alabang) tel 543.4001
1 SUPER IDOL
2 RESERVE
3 BALAHIBONG PUSA
4 HIGHLANDER
5 LITTLE NICKY
6 RED PLANET
7 KANGKONG
8 THE 6TH DAY

Uniwide Metromall
(Las Piñas) tel. 873.5606 loc. 1074
1 WATCH 3 MOVIE FOR ONLY P30.00
2 WHO AM I
3 FIRST STRIKE
4 ARMOUR OF GOD
5 JACKY CHAN FESTIVAL
6

Uniwide Coastal Mall
(Parañaque) tel 879.0001 loc. 2152
1 WATCH 3 MOVIES FOR ONLY P30.00
2 HOT SPOT
3 LABAN KUNG LABAN
4 CRIME STOPPER

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 THE 6TH DAY
2 DEATH ROW

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515
1 KANGKONG
2 BALAHIBONG PUSA
3 SUPER IDOL

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA
A SUPER IDOL

JC Cinema
(Parañaque) tel 825.8626
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA
3 SUPER IDOL

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8568
1 (DOLBY) BALAHIBONG PUSA
2 KANGKONG
3 TANGING YAMAN
4 HIGHLANDER
5 MEET THE PARENTS
6 SUPER IDOL
7 (DTS) RED PLANET
8 (SDDS) REMEMBER THE TITANS
9 (DOLBY) LITTLE NICKY

Caloocan
tel 362.3508
2
3
4
5
6
BALAHIBONG PUSA
KANGKONG
SUPER IDOL

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA
2 BALAHIBONG PUSA
3 SUPER IDOL
4 (SDDS) REMEMBER THE TITANS
5 LITTLE NICKY
6 (DOLBY) HIGHLANDER
7 (DTS) RED PLANET
8 KANGKONG
9 RESERVE

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083
1 (DTS) RED PLANET
2 BALAHIBONG PUSA
3 TANGING YAMAN
4 LITTLE NICKY
5 (SDDS) REMEMBER THE TITANS
6 SUPERIDOL
7 (DOLBY) HIGHLANDER
8 KANGKONG

Ortigas
tel 656.6795
1 KANGKONG
2 THE 6TH DAY
3 (DTS) RED PLANET
4 BALAHIBONG PUSA
5 (SDDS) REMEMBER THE TITANS
6 (DOLBY) SUPER IDOL
7 (DOLBY) HIGHLANDER

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724
Dilson
Lords SUPER IDOL
Jennet NAKED INSTINCT

THE MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 RED PLANET
2 SUPER IDOL
3 BALAHIBONG PUSA
4 LITTLE NICKY

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215
1
3 SUPER IDOL

Super Cinerama
(Manila) tel 733.4226 or 733.4238
1 RED PLANET
2 BALAHIBONG PUSA
3 LITTLE NICKY
4 HIGHLANDER
5 KANGKONG

Divisoria Mall
(Manila) tel 244.4560 or 244.4619
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA
2 KANGKONG
3 SUPER IDOL
4 RED PLANET
5 PING LACSON STORY
6 HIGHLANDER

Baclaran LRT Cinema
tel 512.0115 or 512.0116
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA
2 KANGKONG
3 SUPER IDOL

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA
2 KANGKONG
3 (DTS) SUPER IDOL

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA
2 (DTS) SUPER IDOL
3 (DOLBY) RED PLANET
4 PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) RED PLANET
2 SUPER IDOL
3 KANGKONG
4 (DTS) BALAHIBONG PUSA

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) SUPER IDOL
2 BALAHIBONG PUSA
3 (DTS) RED PLANET
4 LOST SOULS
5 KANGKONG

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA
2 RED PLANET
3 PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 536.5101
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA
2 RED PLANET
3 MEET THE PARENTS

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311
1 SUGATANG TONDO
2
3 KANGKONG

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736
1 PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP
2 RED PLANET
3 SUPER IDOL

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376
1 RED PLANET
2 BALAHIBONG PUSA
3 SUPER IDOL
4

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 243.2783
1 (DTS) BALAHIBONG PUSA
2 (DTS) SUPER IDOL

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385
1 BALAHIBONG PUSA

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657
1 SUPER IDOL
2 BALAHIBONG PUSA
3 KANGKONG

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 RED PLANET
2 SUGATANG PUSO
3 UNBREAKABLE
4 THE 6TH DAY

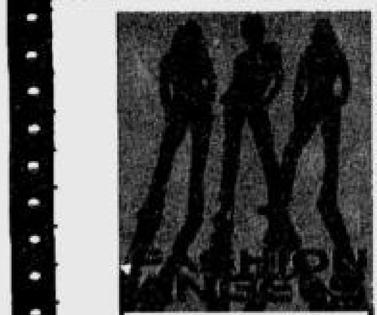
Berma
tel 879.2168
1 CLOSED
2 CLOSED

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269
1 SUPER IDOL
2 KANGKONG
3 BALAHIBONG PUSA
4 RED PLANET

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) MEET THE PARENTS
2 TANGING YAMAN
3 BALAHIBONG PUSA
4 (DTS EX) PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY dts SDDS



BEAUTY PAGEANT 2001

FASHION ANGELS

BEAUTY PAGEANT 2001

FOR INQUIRIES PLS. CALL 734-5012

a special presentation

Star turns

ROBINSONS MOVIE WORLD

STATE-OF-THE-ART CINEMAS

e-mail:htc@netasia-mla.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieword.com

NOW SHOWING

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ERMITA 536-7809-14

1. THE RED PLANET
2. THE 6TH DAY
3. BALAHIBONG PUSA
4. REMEMBER THE TITANS
5. HIGHLANDER
6. LITTLE NICKY
7. MEET THE PARENTS

GALLERIA

UNDER RENOVATION

Robinsons Movieworld aims to bring a new dimension to your viewing experience - 10 brand new cinemas equipped with THX, DTS, SDDS, DOLBY DIGITAL soundsystem.

IMUS (046)875-3838

1. THE RED PLANET
2. REMEMBER THE TITANS
3. SUPER IDOL
4. LITTLE NICKY
5. HIGHLANDER
6. BALAHIBONG PUSA

BACOLOD (034)441-0453

1. MEET THE PARENTS
2. TANGING YAMAN
3. EMPERORS NEW GROOVE
4. CROCODILES
5. GATAS
6. EX-CON

DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101

ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	TANGING YAMAN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	BALAHIBONG PUSA
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	MEET THE PARENTS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	THE 6TH DAY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	BALAHIBONG PUSA
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7(DOLBY)	KANGKONG
FARMERS PLAZA-1(DOLBY)	THE 6TH DAY
FARMERS PLAZA-2(DOLBY)	BALAHIBONG PUSA
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	BALAHIBONG PUSA
MIRAMAR	KATAYAN / BODY TO BODY
ODEON	BALAHIBONG PUSA
ODEON-2	RED PLANET
ROBEN	KANGKONG
TANDEM-1	SPIRIT WARRIORS
TANDEM-2	NAGHUHUMIYAW
TIMES	WHAT LIES BENEATH / ANACONDA 2000
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SA IYO ANG SARAP SA IYO ANG LIGAYA
ACT-2	ARAYY
ACT-3	HIRAM NA KATAWAN
ACT-4	BIRADOR
CORONET-2	DUWAG LANG ANG SUMUSUKO
QUEZON-1	KANGKONG
REMAR	BALAHIBONG PUSA
REMAR-2	KANGKONG
CUBAO	
OCEAN SUPERAMA	MARKOVA: COMFORT GAY
OCEAN CINEMA-A	LARO SA BAGA
OCEAN CINEMA-B	GUEVARRA
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-61 TO 70
CINEMA-1	EMPERORS NEW GROOVE
CINEMA-2	THE 6TH DAY
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-54091 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	KANGKONG
CINEMA-2	EMPERORS NEW GROOVE
CINEMA-3	DEATH ROW
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	THE 6TH DAY
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	THE 6TH DAY
CINEMA-6	BALAHIBONG PUSA
CINEMA-7	SPIRIT WARRIORS
CINEMA-8	TANGING YAMAN
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	MEET THE PARENTS
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	THE 6TH DAY
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP
CINEMA-12	BALAHIBONG PUSA
CINEMA-14	GATAS
CINEMA-15	TANGING YAMAN
LORES	
CINEMA-2	TANGING YAMAN
CINEMA-3	THE 6TH DAY
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	REMEMBER THE TITANS
CINEMA-2	RED PLANET
CINEMA-3	HIGHLANDER
CINEMA-4	LITTLE NICKY
CINEMA-5	MEET THE PARENTS
CINEMA-6	TANGING YAMAN

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

SANDRA Bullock is a popular star, but she's always played second fiddle to Hollywood's current "queen," **Julia Roberts**. With her latest film, "Miss Congeniality," however, Bullock is starting to catch up.

Not only is the movie doing well at the tills, but it's also bagged a Best Actress nomination for Bullock in the Golden Globe competition.

In the film, Bullock plays an FBI agent who goes undercover as a contestant in the Miss United States beauty contest, to try to foil a terrorist threat to blow up the pageant.

Earlier last year, **Minnie Driver** also played a beauty contestant in a film, but it had no terrorist component.

For their part, **Meg Ryan** and **Russell Crowe** topbill "Proof for Life," where Crowe plays a hostage negotiator who falls in love with the wife (Ryan) of the kidnap victim he's supposed to rescue.

What makes the movie a hot property is the fact that Ryan and Crowe really fell in love while shooting the production, so their love scenes have added "conviction."

In fact, one of them was so passionate that the movie's director, **Taylor Hackford**, decided to cut it out of the film. Why? Because it called too much attention to the stars and their real passion for each other, and thus distracted from what he felt the film should really be about.

Meanwhile, after **Sylvester Stallone** ("Cliffhanger") and **Tom Cruise** ("Mission Impossible 2"), it's **Chris O'Donnell**'s turn to go for high-altitude thrills and chills in "Vertical Limit."

In the movie, O'Donnell plays a rock climber who leads a team up the treacherous slopes of K2, the second-highest mountain in the world, to rescue his stranded sister.

It wasn't an easy shoot for the 30-year-old star, who admits to a fear of flying. That may not be exactly like a fear of heights, but it's close enough!

Since the film required him to do a lot of hanging off the sides of awesomely steep mountains, O'Donnell had to master his fear in

STAR/ A22

LOUIE'S CINEMA

THX It Will Change the Way You Hear and See Movies Forever

NOW SHOWING

RED PLANET
(PG-13 RT-1:45)
Adventure- Drama-Suspense
Starring:
Val Kilmer
Carrie Anne Moss
Tom Sizemore

January 18 - Thursday
6:30 PM - Red Planet
8:50 PM - Red Planet
11:10 PM - Red Planet

Get a copy of the 3rd issue of Pelikula: A Journal of Philippine Cinema and Learn more about Comedy King DOLPHY and other Filipino artists, Movie fans & Idols.

Pelikula is one of the beneficiary projects of the LRP Foundation, published jointly with the U-P College of Mass Communication.

Hear the Difference, Feel the Excitement

ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Another Chan, another music man

BY LEAH SALTERIO

HE has the respected musical legacy of his father, singer-composer Jose Mari Chan. And although he was greatly influenced by his dad to become a singer himself, Michael Chan dares to be different from his popular father when it comes to music.

When Michael launched his debut album, "Five Corners," last year, he sang tunes of varied styles, from rock and jazz to mellow.

"That's why the album is titled 'Five Corners,'" Michael explains. "It's a one-shot deal and I don't think it will ever happen again. It's some sort of a novelty album for me because I was able to record all the types of songs that I wanted."

Michael's effort in his musical debut did not go unnoticed. Awit Awards honored him with the award for best jazz recording with vocals for the single "Mystery." He was in New York at the time the announcement was made and had to come home for the awards night to accept his three trophies as producer, songwriter and performer.

Katha also gave him two awards, for best contemporary song and best jazz performance for "Time Will Tell."

That Michael will be inclined toward music is not really surprising. Having Jose Mari Chan for a father ignited his musical interest early on.

"He was the one who encouraged me," Michael says of his dad. "He talked to BMG Records and pushed my demo tape. He paved the way for me to get a recording deal."

Michael initially formed a rock band, Faction, which signed a recording deal with Dyna in 1995. But before the group could take off, it disbanded.

"We wanted to sing alternative music," Michael shares. "But Dyna wanted us to revive my dad's songs and that didn't suit us so the band broke up even before we could release an album."

The third child among five children, Michael was only eight when he started singing pop songs he heard on the radio—such as Michael Jackson's "Ben," USA for Africa's "We are the World" and Debbie Boone's "You Light Up My Life."

Willing to explore

At 10, he started taking piano lessons. "The piano is my favorite musical instrument, although I can also play the guitar and the sax. The piano is the only instrument that enables you to know how the song will sound from the bass to the harmony."

At 13, his interest turned to rock. At 19, he realized he could string words and melodies together like his dad.

His first original composition was an unrecorded tune, "I Saw the Sun at Play," which he wrote in college when he was only 19.

Michael credits his dad for his varied musical influences.

"The willingness to explore other kinds of music is something I got from my father," Michael says. "I have varied musical influences and I admire musicians for their songwriting skills, the beautiful poetry in their songs."

In the blurb of his debut album, Michael mentioned names like David Gates, Don Maclean, Kenny Rankin, Paul Simon, Stevie Wonder, John Coltrane, Juan Carlos Jobim, Wes Montgomery and Paul McCartney as having influenced his style.

Improvised musician

"I will always write music that pleases me first and foremost," he says. "That's what my dad told me. He said, 'You shouldn't write something for other people, but write it for yourself so that even if people lambaste it, you're happy.' I've heeded that advice. There's so much music coming out of me and it's worth sharing it with people."

Some of his personal experiences are in cuts like "Friends Forever," which he wrote for his high school buddies at Southridge—Leo, Jon, Paul, Anton, Paolo, Don, Luigi and Mike.

JOSE MARI'S son Michael says he has "so much music" in him.

"They were so thrilled to learn that I made a song for them," Michael beams.

In "Scarsdale," he sings about memories of his childhood in New York. "But at the end of the song, there's a twist because he sings it to a girl, so it becomes a love song," he explains.

"Song for Mother Earth" brings out the environmentalist in him.

"I'm bothered by the abuse this planet has been getting, to think that this is the home God gave us," he says.

But when it comes to singing love songs, Michael hardly relies on his own romantic experiences.

"If it's a love song, it should provide more insight into the love experience than just the mere trappings of roses in the moonlight," Michael says. "In writing a love song, I try to see the heartaches and thrill of other people, every state of the romance, from the anxious beginning to the tragic conclusion."

Although schooled at the prestigious Mannes College in New York, where he took up jazz theory and composition, Michael still considers himself an improvised musician.

"School cannot give you creative juices, it can only provide you with the tools you can use," he maintains. "The creativity should come from you."

After more than two years of studying in New York, he returned in December to focus on his singing career. He is now working on songs for his second album, also for BMG Records, which he vows to promote more actively.

Music and business

"I have to work doubly hard for my second album," he says. "I'd like to be able to reach out to a wider audience so the songs will also be more commercial. I'm not hoping that it will easily be a sell-out by any means, but I just want to create a sound that's more familiar to listeners. So the album will include mostly jazz-pop and mellow tunes."

Like his dad, Michael says he's "sentimental and romantic, impulsive but with temperance, not without prudence, and has empathy to the feelings of other people."

At 26, Michael is pleased that he is treading the same path as his dad not just in music but also in business. A business management graduate from Ateneo de Manila University, Michael is now working for the family's sugar business. He holds office at Legaspi Towers in Makati.

"It's great being able to find a balance between a musical career and business," he says. "During the day, I talk business with my dad when we're in the office, but at the end of the day, we discuss music."

On the inevitable comparison with his father, Michael says, "Yes, he's my dad, but look what I have to offer. Our music doesn't have to be alike. Look at Julio Iglesias and his sons Enrique and Julio Jr. They all sing in different styles.

"I'm proud of my father and what he has achieved. He's a very successful musician in his own right. I would love to do an original song with him, with both of us writing the music and lyrics. Collectively, in time, we will be able to establish the music legacy of the Chan family."

NU's best has a new album

PINOY rap metal pioneer Slapshock is set to launch its latest album, "Headtrip" from the Virgin Label of OctoArts EMI Music, on Friday, Jan. 26, at the UP Bahay ng Alumni.

Slapshock was recently awarded a Gold Record for their debut album, "4th Degree Burn." The band also received awards for Best Music Video, Best New Artist and the Listeners Choice Award at the NU Rock Awards 2000 and Best Sound Engineering at the Awit Awards 2000.

During the launch, the band will perform "Evil Clown," "Sick Curtain" and "Agent Orange" as well as songs from their new album.

Myra Ruaro—Skarlet of the Brownbeat All-Stars—will be the special guest for the launch.

You can get watch the launch for free by being among the first 1,000 buyers of Slapshock's "Headtrip" album at any Odyssey Music Store or record bar to get free invites to be found inside copies of the album.

Those who have already bought the album can have their copies validated for free invites on a first-come, first-serve basis at OctoArts EMI Music on the 25th floor of Atlanta Center on Annapolis Street in Greenhills, San Juan.

Star turns

(From page A21)

a hurry. He was able to do that and to pull off his mountain-climbing scenes with apparent aplomb, but he still cites "Vertical Limit" as "the scariest thing I've ever done."

Finally, after scoring a direct hit in "American Pie," **Sean William Scott** plays one of the two leads in "Dude, Where's My Car?" The film also stars **Ashton Kutcher**, who topbills the smash sitcom, "That '70s Show."

Scott and Kutcher play two party-loving dudes who have a great time one night, but when they wake up in the morning, they can't remember where they parked their car.

Since the vehicle contains something that their girlfriends urgently need, the two dudes have to retrace their activities. Their surprising discoveries account for much of the off-the-wall humor in the film.

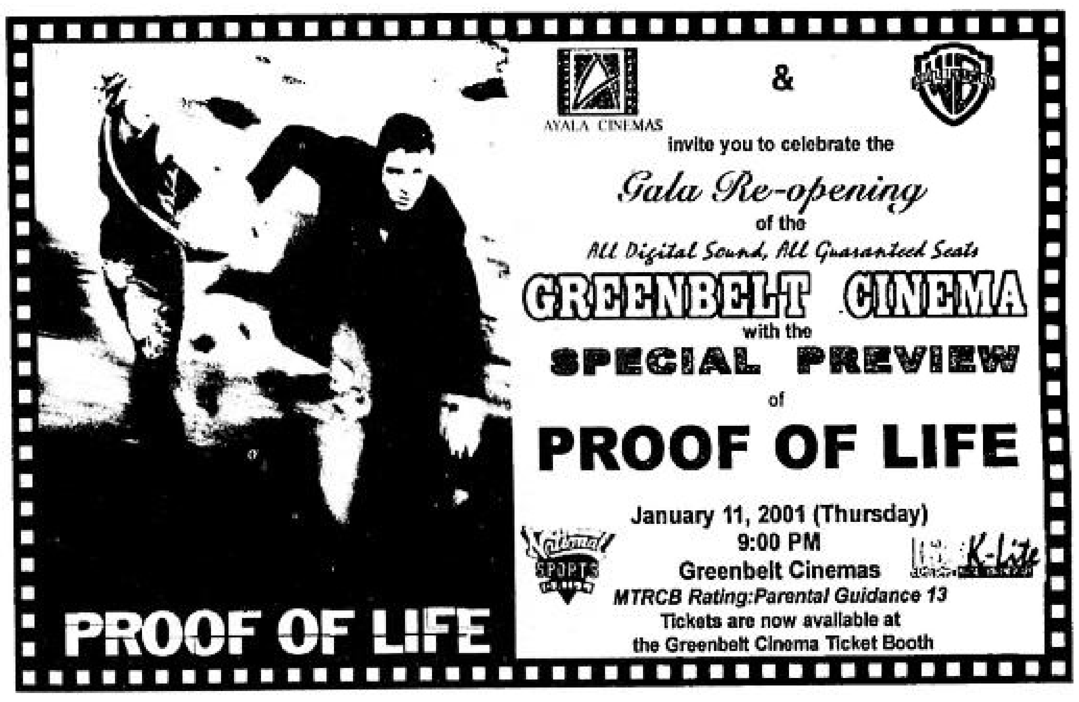
Animania on ABC-5

NEXT month, ABC-5 features the finest in Japanese animation in its Animania festival. The featured series include:

"F"—hero **Gunma Akasi** defies all odds as he drives his monster race car in the toughest formula races.

"Mahha Go Go Go"—about **Tsuyoshi** and his Mahha, a race car equipped with seven guardian safety devices and a strong contender in the Grand Prix.

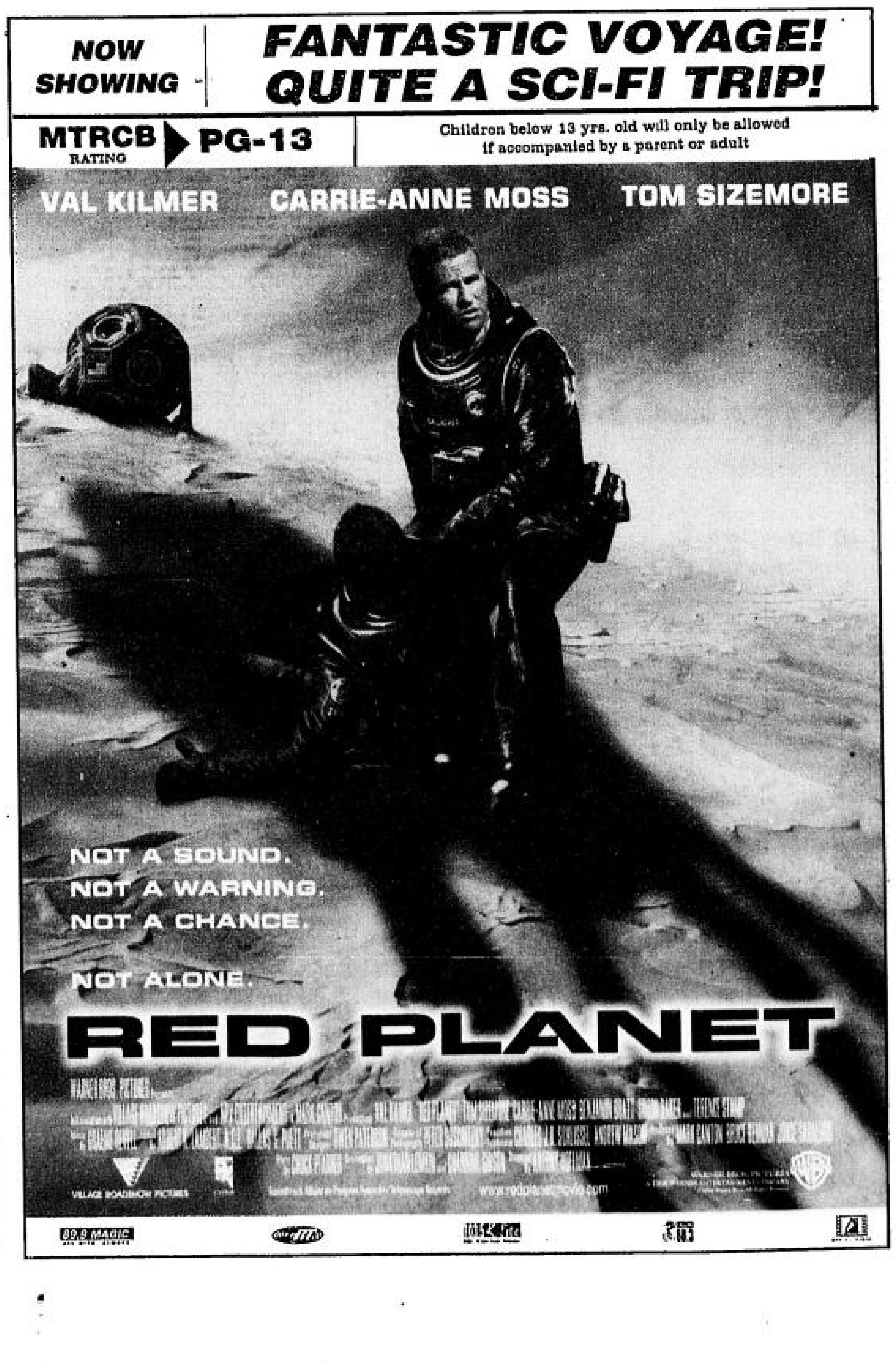
"Time Quest"—friends **Trio Parker** and **Kerry Sky** are transported by time machine to 9th century Baghdad, where exotic adventures await them.



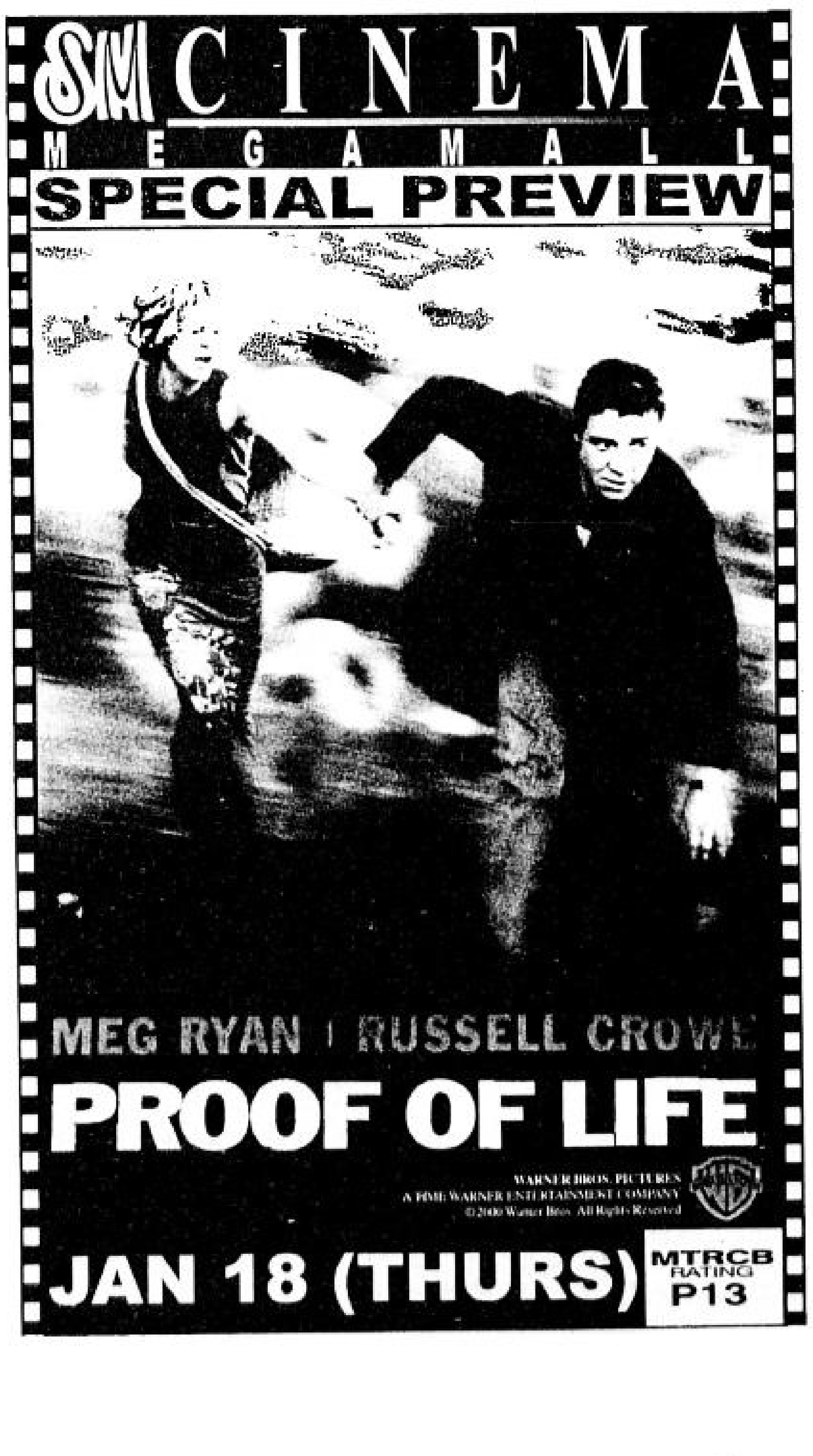
AYALA CINEMAS & invite you to celebrate the
Gala Re-opening
of the
All Digital Sound, All Guaranteed Seats
GREENBELT CINEMA
with the
SPECIAL PREVIEW
of
PROOF OF LIFE
January 11, 2001 (Thursday)
9:00 PM
Greenbelt Cinemas
MTRCB Rating:Parental Guidance 13
Tickets are now available at
the Greenbelt Cinema Ticket Booth
PROOF OF LIFE
K-Lite

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

REMEMBER THE TITANS 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:20	RED PLANET 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00	HIGHLANDER 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00
LITTLE NICKY 1:40, 3:45, 5:50, 7:55, 10:00	MEET THE PARENTS 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00	TANGING YAMAN 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00



NOW SHOWING
FANTASTIC VOYAGE!
QUITE A SCI-FI TRIP!
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
VAL KILMER CARRIE-ANNE MOSS TOM SIZEMORE
NOT A SOUND.
NOT A WARNING.
NOT A CHANCE.
NOT ALONE.
RED PLANET
VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES
www.redplanetmovie.com
89.9 MAGIC



SM CINEMA
MEGAMALL
SPECIAL PREVIEW
MEG RYAN | RUSSELL CROWE
PROOF OF LIFE
WARNER BROS. PICTURES
A TIME WARNER ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY
©2000 Warner Bros. All Rights Reserved
JAN 18 (THURS)
MTRCB RATING P13

BUSINESS

RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ■ CORRIE S. NARISMA, Assistant Editor

City R series

www.hondaphil.com HONDA

'Disappointed' PDIC chief quits

BY ELENA R. TORRIJOS AND CLARISSA S. BATINO

PHILIPPINE Deposit Insurance Corp. president Norberto Nazareno yesterday resigned from his post effective next month in protest of the Senate majority's decision to "suppress the truth."

National Treasurer Leonor Briones said she was likewise considering seriously a plan to leave the Estrada administration.

In an interview with the INQUIRER, Nazareno said his resignation was a sign of his disappointment in the impeachment process and the reasoning of the 11 senators who voted the other night not to open the second envelope of bank documents from Equitable PCI Bank.

The prosecution panel alleged that the documents would have shown that President Estrada had as much as P3.3 billion in deposits in the bank.

Nazareno said he yesterday gave his superiors his irrevocable letter of resignation, effective Feb. 16 or as soon as the government could appoint a replacement or officer-in-charge.

Nazareno said that reading in the INQUIRER last Sunday a one-page appeal of the Ateneo for alumni in government to reconsider their staying on, "helped me to rethink what I have been thinking for some time."

He said his resignation was "a decision made in prayer" and that he had no immediate plans at this point.

He said that in conversations yesterday morning, he informed Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura and Finance Secretary Jose T. Pardo of his move.

Nazareno was tapped nine and a half months ago to take the PDIC post after the term of former PDIC president Ernest Leung expired. He was previously president of Philippine Banking Corp., which was acquired by Global Business Bank, a subsidiary of Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co.

He said he had no regrets in taking on the job and that his stint at PDIC had been "very fruitful and challenging."

He added that he had received support to inject a lot of improvements into the state-owned corporation.

During his term, PDIC granted a P10-billion emergency loan, still outstanding, to the Philippine National Bank, and placed Urban Bank under its receivership.

Meantime, Budget Secretary Benjamin Diokno said the economic team comprised of Pardo, Economic Planning Secretary Felipe Medalla and Buenaventura remained intact despite rumors that some of them have resigned.

"Of course I am reflecting on these events but unlike Mr. Nazareno, I have more urgent matters to attend to," said Briones who was once head of the militant Freedom from Debt Coalition and remained active in that organization until she was brought in by former Finance chief Edgardo Espiritu.

Sources said the economic team would try to convince Nazareno, a colleague of BSP's Buenaventura in Citibank, to reconsider his resignation.

Nazareno spent 19 years with Citibank NA. Before his Citibank stint, he was senior vice president of State Investment House from 1979 to 1984.

He was once a governor of the Philippine Stock Exchange and a director of the Financial Executive Institute of the Philippines.

Briones, a former UP professor like Diokno and Medalla, is being urged by her colleagues to leave the Estrada administration and join the public indignation against the impeached President who allegedly collected P400 million in "jueteng" payoffs, P130 million in tobacco tax kickbacks and amassed unexplained wealth to build mansions for his mistresses.

The national treasurer, however, repeatedly explained that her sensitive position bound her to public service.

Political crisis seen to trigger economic crisis

BY FERNANDO T. ALDABA AND LEONARDO LANZONA

WHETHER we like it or not, the Senate vote last night will have a tremendous impact on the Philippine economy.

It has triggered a wave of protests nationwide. Political instability and uncertainty will surely translate into a full-blown economic crisis. The economy has been bleeding badly since the start of "Juetengate" in October last year.

After the infamous Senate vote Tuesday night, capital flight will worsen. The exchange rate may plunge to the P60-65 per $1 late this week. The stock market may probably lose 200-300 points in the next few days. This has been the "post-acquittal" scenario we have been talking about in November last year.

If the present political situation prevails, we will be in a similar situation after Ninoy Aquino was assassinated in 1983. A prolonged political impasse will lead to GDP growth rates of zero to one percent levels.

We have always emphasized that our current economic malaise is due to a crisis of confidence in the political leadership. The continued hemorrhage of the economy is rooted in the failure of governance.

As shown in the impeachment trial, the Estrada administration has been an epitome of a "predatory state"—a government that has shamelessly ravaged the wealth and resource of the nation in so short a time.

This trial has established how Mr. Estrada, his cronies, his mistresses and relatives have amassed billions of pesos through bribes, graft and corruption.

The 11 pro-administration senators have insulted every Filipino, and by allowing Mr. Estrada to remain as president, should be made responsible for the plunder of the economy.

This worsening economic situation may only be halted with the ouster of Joseph Ejercito (alias Estrada and Jose Velarde). The resignation of our economic managers and other key members of the Cabinet will facilitate the exit of this administration.

(Aldaba is director of the Ateneo Center for Economic Research and Development and Economic Policy Research Unit, Ateneo Center for Social Policy, and Lanzona is chair of the Department of Economics of the Ateneo de Manila University.)

Gov't eyes ₱10B from asset sale

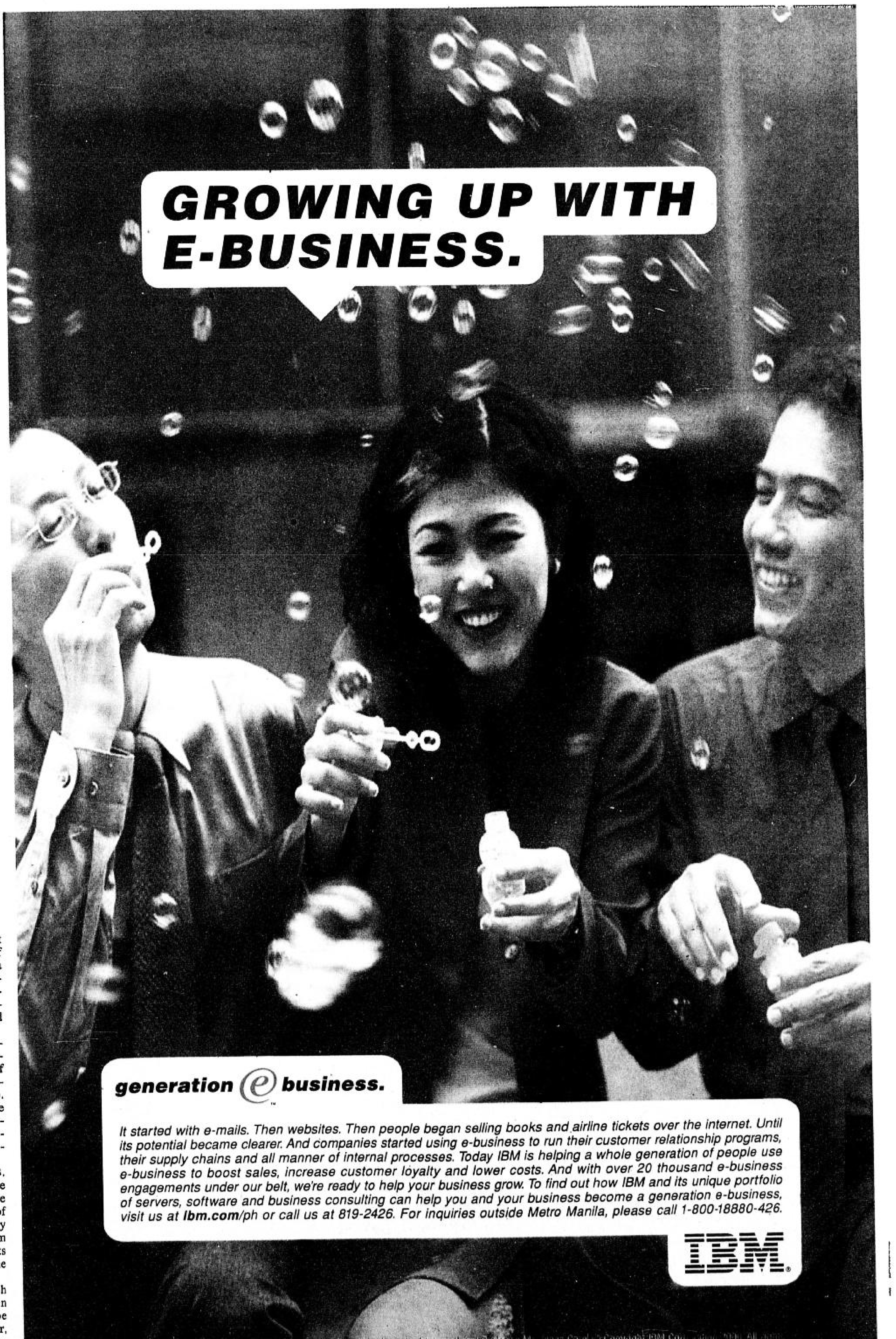
BY GIL C. CABACUNGAN JR.

THE ESTRADA administration is eyeing at least P10 billion in revenues from the sale of state assets, specifically the shares in Manila Electric Co., the toll way franchise of Philippine National Construction Co., and the 4.8-hectare lot of the International School of Manila, by the newly formed Privatization and Management Office.

PMO is now the government's main disposition agency under the Department of Finance. It retained the immunity from suit of the Asset Privatization Trust (whose term expired last year) under Proclamation Order No. 50 with a much broader scope of assets to be sold to include not only non-performing assets but also viable assets of other government agencies and government-owned corporations.

PMO chief privatization officer Renato B. Valdecantos said the APT was tapped as the government's main privatization agency because of its expertise (having overseen the bidding of 480 companies and other assets worth roughly P200 billion for 14 years) and its immunity from injunction or restraining orders, including its power to compromise legal cases and condone interests.

PMO was created under EO 323, which also established the Privatization Council (in lieu of the Committee on Privatization) to be composed of the Finance Secretary as chair, the budget and trade and industry secretaries, the National Economic and Development Authority director general, and the justice secretary.



GROWING UP WITH E-BUSINESS.

generation e business.

It started with e-mails. Then websites. Then people began selling books and airline tickets over the internet. Until its potential became clearer. And companies started using e-business to run their customer relationship programs, their supply chains and all manner of internal processes. Today IBM is helping a whole generation of people use e-business to boost sales, increase customer loyalty and lower costs. And with over 20 thousand e-business engagements under our belt, we're ready to help your business grow. To find out how IBM and its unique portfolio of servers, software and business consulting can help you and your business become a generation e-business, visit us at **ibm.com**/ph or call us at 819-2426. For inquiries outside Metro Manila, please call 1-800-18880-426.

IBM®

P60 TO $1 LIKELY

Politics seen pressuring peso

THE PESO should remain weak throughout 2001, with its outlook heavily dependent on political developments, a Reuters poll yesterday showed.

A survey of 10 research houses produced an average forecast for the peso of 52.45 to the dollar in June this year and 52.86 by year's end.

The poll was conducted before news of the Senate vote late on Tuesday that all but acquitted President Estrada.

The peso fell more than 5 percent at Wednesday's opening to 55.50 fo the dollar and later dropped to 55.75. The currency closed the day at 54.625.

The Senate voted 11 to 10 not to open crucial bank records that prosecutors said would provide evidence of the wealth Mr. Estrada amassed while in office.

A Reuters poll in May 2000 had forecast the peso to reach 41.61 on average by June 2001.

The peso hit a record low of 52.95 to the dollar on Tuesday as fears of social unrest if Mr. Estrada was acquitted dampened investor sentiment.

The yearend forecasts for the peso were in a broad range of 47 to 60 per dollar as the economists surveyed took differing views on whether or not there would be a change in government after Mr. Estrada's impeachment trial, expected to end next month.

Four economists said they assumed Mr. Estrada would be acquitted on charges of bribery and corruption, betrayal of public trust and culpable violation of the Constitution. The President has pleaded not guilty to all the charges.

Three economists based their forecasts on the assumption that there would be a change in government and two declined to qualify their forecasts.

One economist gave a forecast range based on either an acquittal or a conviction for Mr. Estrada.

"We expect the peso to come under further pressure. The recovery will be slow going," said PK Basu, an economist of CS First Boston in Singapore.

Volatility hit the peso in October after a provincial governor said he personally delivered millions of pesos in payoffs from illegal gambling syndicates to Mr. Estrada. That revelation led to the impeachment case against Mr. Estrada.

Besides the political factors, the peso would also be negatively affected by the ballooning budget deficit, slowing exports, and weak investment inflows, the economists said. *Reuters*

BSP to keep key interest rates steady

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas said yesterday it would not raise overnight rates to stem a slide in the peso, which fell to a new historic low after a walkout by prosecutors left President Estrada's impeachment trial in limbo.

"The further depreciation of the peso is not curable by a rate hike since it is driven by emotions. We will not use overnight rates to cure the peso's problem," BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said.

"We are not considering a rate hike. This fall is not curable by a rate hike because it's emotionally driven," he said.

Central bank policymakers are due to hold their next weekly meeting today.

The BSP's key policy rates would stay at 12.5 percent for overnight borrowing and 14.75 percent for overnight lending, Buenaventura said.

The peso fell sharply to 55.50 to a dollar at the opening of trade yesterday after the impeachment trial of Mr. Estrada was thrown into chaos and thousands of people protested against his likely acquittal of corruption charges. The local currency closed at 54.625 after hitting an intra-day high of 55.75.

Financial markets tumbled after the Senate, by an 11-10 vote, rejected a prosecution request to open bank accounts where Mr. Estrada may have stashed millions of pesos in illegal payoffs. Senate President Aquilino Pimentel and lawyers on the prosecution team resigned in protest.

Despite the worsening economic and political turmoil, Buenaventura was still optimistic that the BSP would be able to lower interest rates to as low as 11 percent within the year.

"We will have to wait for the decision of the US Federal Reserve before we could make our move. But we can't bring the rates too low because of the deficit," he said.

The US Fed was scheduled to meet later this month to see if it could lower short term interest rates some more.

Buenaventura expected that the US Fed would bring down rates by about 1 percentage point within the first quarter of the year.

"It would be nice if we could also cut rates by 1 percentage point within the quarter," said the BSP governor.

Last Friday, monetary authorities brought down rates by another 50 points, bringing the total BSP cuts since early December to 2.5 percentage points.

The BSP raised rates by 4 percentage points in October last year following the negative impact of the "Juetengate" scandal on investor confidence as reflected by the sharp decline in the value of the peso.

The central bank has cut key overnight rates 2.5 percentage points to December after raising them four points in October to support the peso after corruption allegations against Mr. Estrada pulled it to a then-record low.

High borrowing costs are putting added strain on an economy already battered by slumping spending and investment and slowing exports. Philippine economic growth may slow to about 3 percent this year from last year's 4 percent, already among the slowest in Asia, the government estimates.

Asian currencies seen steadier this year

SINGAPORE—Asian currencies are in for another fairly uncomfortable year as supportive trade surpluses are eroded by the US economic slowdown, but an easier dollar will offer some respite.

The latest Reuters poll of analysts around Asia shows there is a mixed view of what this year's trend in the regional currencies will be, but on the whole they are expected to end this year not worryingly adrift from current levels.

For some, most notably the Philippine peso and Indonesian rupiah, the near-term downside will be exacerbated as the markets fret about political instability.

In the case of Thailand and South Korea, worries over the pace of economic and banking sector reform will weigh.

"Exports, which are the engine of growth, will slow down and domestic demand is not expected to improve either, due to problems in decentralization, general politics and a deterioration in law and order," said Don Hanna from Salomon Smith Barney, talking specifically about Indonesia but summing up what most analysts think about the region in general.

The rupiah is expected to strengthen toward the year's end on the possibility of more political stability and hopes the myriad other woes hobbling the country will begin to get sorted out.

"Hopefully, over the second half, pressure on the rupiah will lessen," said Raden Pardede, chief economist at state-owned Danareksa Securities.

The peso should remain weak throughout 2001.

Although the poll was conducted before news of the Senate vote late on Tuesday that appeared to all but acquit President Estrada in his impeachment trial, some had anyway anticipated such an outcome.

"We expect the peso to come under further pressure. The recovery will be slow going," said PK Basu, an economist of CS First Boston in Singapore.

The Thai baht is seen being more stable, but not necessarily stronger in 2001 as slowing demand for the US dollar eases the pressure.

"We will see a relatively more stable baht than in the past three years," said Eddie Lee, a regional economist at Vickers Ballas. "I suspect there will not be a rush for the US currency now because of the US rates coming off, its economy is slowing, but people will also not rush for the baht either."

The Singapore dollar is expected to edge higher, but an easing in the pace of economic activity this year is expected to prompt the authorities to move from a tightening bias to a neutral stance, and this would cap the upside.

The authorities have said the policy of a gradual, trade-weighted appreciation of the Singapore dollar was unchanged, but analysts doubted they could or would hold that stance.

Slowing exports, concern over restructuring and a softer yen will weigh on the won but as with the Singapore dollar a gain in the second half is anticipated.

"There's going to be uncertainty in reform which I don't think Korea will be able to sort out within the next few months," said Chi Lo, regional head of research for treasury at Standard Chartered in Hong Kong.

The Taiwan dollar will feel the pressures of weaker domestic fundamentals as well as a slowdown in the United States, but again it is seen posting some gains into the end of the year.

However, some analysts believe the authorities favor a gradually softening of the local dollar instead of it raising interest rates, given the fear of a credit crunch.

November imports rise 13.5%

IMPORTS rose in November for a third straight month, pushed up by higher oil prices and a weaker peso, even as electronics makers and other manufacturers bought fewer raw materials abroad, the National Statistics Office reported yesterday.

Imports rose 13.5 percent from a year earlier to $2.66 billion after a 9.2-percent gain in October. That took the trade surplus to $648 million, up 18.9 percent from October. November exports rose 7.9 percent to $3.3 billion, the government said earlier.

Even as the overall import bill rose in November, companies bought fewer parts used to make electronics, suggesting exports might be hurt in the coming months by slowing global demand. That did not bode well for an economy already wracked with a political scandal and slack domestic spending.

The increase was "primarily an exchange-rate effect, not really because there's any legitimate demand" for imported raw materials and consumer goods, Emilio Neri, an economist and head of research at Abacus Securities Corp., said. "There's very little reason to be optimistic about production growth this year."

A weakening currency and surging global crude oil prices pushed up the import bill in a country that buys all of its crude oil overseas.

Crude oil prices rose about 31 percent in the first 11 months of 2000 and the peso weakened about 23 percent, reflecting investors' doubts about President Estrada's ability to spur economic growth.

From the previous month, imports fell 6.7 percent, without adjusting for seasonal changes.

Imports of electronics and components, which make up about 21 percent of the total, fell 3.1 percent from a year earlier to $561 million, and industrial machinery and equipment imports fell 0.8 percent to $151 million.

Purchases of telecommunications equipment rose 14.4 percent to $206 million.

Fuel imports, which accounted for about 16 percent of the total, doubled to $418.5 million after a 73-percent gain in October.

For the first 11 months of the year, imports rose 3.8 percent from the year-earlier period to $29.1 billion. The trade surplus for the January-to-November period was $5.4 billion. *Bloomberg*

Truckers seek tariff rollback

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

LOCAL truck and bus assemblers are asking Malacañang to reconsider its decision to raise duties on completely knocked-down parts, or assembly kits, for trucks and buses from 3 percent to 10 percent over the next three years.

In a letter to President Estrada, Truck Manufacturers Association Inc. president Frank Nacua said this tariff hike was contrary to the Cabinet-level Tariff and Related Matters' move to maintain duties of automotive products up to 2004.

Only automotive and petrochemicals were granted a tariff freeze of up to 2004, while other commodities were only allowed to keep their 2000 duties up to 2001.

PLDT shelves plans to bail out BayanTel

By Anthony O. Alcantara

THE PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co. has shelved plans to invest in Bayan Telecommunications Inc., a person familiar with the matter said yesterday.

Discussions on PLDT's planned acquisition of BayanTel's fixed-line business were already terminated, the source said.

"The discussions are off. The economic terms are not that rosy," he said. He added that there were also differences in valuation.

Carlos Tria Jr., managing director of BayanTel sister firm Integrated Broadband Services, said last week the Lopez group of companies asked PLDT's help to restructure BayanTel's $500 million in debts. They said talks on the same matter were also held with Norway's Telenor.

Tria said BayanTel's debt restructuring could take the route of an equity infusion, loans or similar arrangements.

BayanTel has hired Bank of America Corp. to map out a debt restructuring plan.

An industry source said PLDT, although no longer interested in investing in BayanTel, was still pursuing talks to take part in the Lopez group's broadcast and cable TV businesses.

PLDT's Home Cable Inc. and the Lopez group's Sky Vision Corp. are currently assessing each other's assets and liabilities for a possible joint venture.

On Tuesday, BayanTel said it missed a $13.5-million coupon payment due Monday and was in talks with creditors to renegotiate its debt.

The company told bondholders in a teleconference it would not make interest payments on $200 million of bonds maturing in July 2006 until debt restructuring talks are completed in the next six to 12 months. Coupon payments on the bonds, sold in July 1999, fall due Jan. 15 and July 15 of each year. *With a report from Bloomberg*

DISCLOSURES

TRADING of **Guoco Holdings (Philippines), Inc.**'s shares continued following the submission of its SEC 11-Q report covering the quarter ending Sept. 30.

* * *

INTERPHIL Laboratories Inc. furnished the Exchange a copy of its amended SEC Form 11-A for fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 1999.

* * *

LMG Chemicals Corp. furnished the Exchange an amended copy of SEC Form 11-A or annual report for fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 1999.

* * *

THE BOARD of **Equitable PCI Bank Inc.** approved the promotion of the following officers: Antonio Cotoco and Walter Wassmer, from SVP to EVP; and Redentor Bencod, from FVP to SVP.

* * *

AJO.net Holdings Inc. appointed Giovanni Bacareza as vice president for strategic planning.

* * *

MULTITECH Investment Corp. said it had no knowledge of any information that caused the decrease of its share price last Jan. 16.

* * *

THE BOARD of **Zeus Holdings Inc.** accepted the resignation of the following officers: Peter Hoddinott, chair of the board; Renato Sunico, president; John Reinier Dizon, treasurer and CFO; Jocelyn Salazar, corporate secretary; and Froilan de Dios, assistant corporate secretary. Their elected replacements were Micky Yong Mee Swee, chair and president; Ronald Sugapong, treasurer; Daisy Parker, corporate secretary.

* * *

THE PAR value of the shares of **Victorias Milling Co. Inc.** would be reverted to P10 per share. The change will be reflected in the Exchange's computer system on Jan. 19. *Compiled by Armin P. Adina, PDI Research*

Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Wednesday, January 17, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Bank of the Phil. Islands	56	57.5	55	57.5	381,700
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	54.5	56	54	55	62,100
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	192	192	176	176	223,320
Philippine National Bank	37	37	37	37	4,500
Security Bank Corp.	25	25	25	25	100
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.54	1.54	1.5	1.52	242,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1380	1380	1365	1365	7,830
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	280,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1180	1210	1170	1180	31,980
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	45	46	45	46	130,800
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.43	0.45	0.43	0.45	490,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	670	680	670	670	2,940
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.044	0.044	0.042	0.042	9,400,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co.	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	50,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	800	875	800	870	442,060
Ivantage Corp.	0.85	0.85	0.8	0.8	410,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.034	0.034	0.031	0.034	40,100,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	43	46	43	46	39,100
Manila Electric Co. B	48	49	46	48	9,276,500
Petron Corp.	1.22	1.24	1.18	1.18	6,509,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	840,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.54	0.56	0.54	0.56	120,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	2.36	2.36	2.36	2.36	50,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	9.5	9.7	9.5	9.7	342,000
La Tondena Distillers Inc.	29	32	29	31.5	562,800
Pure Foods Corp. A	100	100	100	100	2,000
San Miguel Corp. A	48	48.5	47.5	48.5	248,600
San Miguel Corp. B	55.5	56.5	53	56	1,282,000
Universal Robina Corp.	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	5,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.46	60,000
Ayala Corp.	7	7.1	6.7	7	13,363,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.34	1.36	1.34	1.34	671,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	12	12	11.5	11.5	7,800
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0042	0.0042	0.004	0.004	11,000,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	8.4	11.5	8.4	11.5	4,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	2.8	2.9	2.65	2.85	27,998,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.28	0.32	0.28	0.32	100,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	0.75	0.75	0.74	0.74	1,140,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	20.75	20.75	20	20.5	125,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.28	0.3	0.25	0.29	3,580,000
Ionics Inc.	15	15	15	15	14,000
Ipeople Inc.	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.81	50,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	2.08	2.1	2.08	2.1	210,000
Macroasia Corp.	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	20,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.78	0.78	0.74	0.77	3,590,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.55	0.56	0.51	0.55	12,630,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.29	0.3	8,540,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Macondray Plastics Inc.	6.2	6.5	6.2	6.5	15,000
Music Corp.	2.65	2.75	2.65	2.65	293,000
Central Azucar Don Pedro	0.85	0.85	0.83	0.83	130,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	530,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.62	0.62	0.58	0.58	6,860,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	50,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.165	0.165	0.165	0.165	40,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	45	46.5	45	45	407,100
DMCI Holdings Inc.- Pref.	560	560	560	560	100
Equitable PCI Bank-War	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.9	317,000
Globe Telecom Hldg (Pdr)	665	705	665	705	1,000
Jollibee Warrants	9.8	9.8	9.8	9.8	10,000
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.0024	0.0024	0.0024	0.0024	151,000,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Q	11	11	11	11	1,800
PLDT (10% Pref) Series R	11	11	11	11	300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series S	11	11	11	11	1,900
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	11	11	11	11	1,700
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	11	11	10.25	10.25	1,800
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	11	11	11	11	900
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,400
PLDT (10% Pref) Series X	11	11	11	11	900
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	11	11	11	11	200
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	11	11	11	11	7,200
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	5.5	5.7	5.2	5.5	51,679,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.41	0.41	0.4	0.4	340,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.2	0.2	0.19	0.19	1,250,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.39	170,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.33	0.36	0.32	0.35	50,520,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.38	1.4	1.34	1.34	18,033,000
City & Land Developers	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	65,000
SM Development Corp.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	10,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	5.7	5.9	5.3	5.8	35,160,000
Universal Rightfield Prop	0.0875	0.09	0.0875	0.09	500,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co., Inc. A	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	2,000,000
Apex Mining Co., Inc B	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	8,000,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	10,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	25,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0036	0.0036	0.0032	0.0032	659,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.245	0.245	0.245	0.245	1,560,000
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	100,000
OIL					
Interport Res.	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	10,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	12,000,000
Pacifica	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.014	9,200,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.18	0.18	0.175	0.175	200,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	4,100,130	169,092,590.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	313,542,900	1,175,089,080.00
PRO	157,727,000	528,728,780.00
Mining	705,660,000	2,812,300.00
OIL	31,400,000	264,700.00
GRAND TOTALS :	1,212,430,030	1,875,987,450.00

AVERAGES			
Banks & Fin Svc	539.78	DOWN	33.91
Comm'l & Ind'l	2,048.88	DOWN	112.61
PRO	510.70	DOWN	40.18
Mining	1,215.89	DOWN	8.31
OIL	1.75	DOWN	0.03
All Shares Index	780.22	DOWN	6.99
Composite	1,458.63	DOWN	93.16

NO. OF ADVANCES: 12; NO. OF DECLINES: 69; ...... NO. OF UNCHANGED: 11;
NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 92;NO. OF TRADES: 5,174

CURRENCIES

Jan. 17, 2001 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency In US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.060895	1.000000	52.6490
Japan	Yen	0.009012	0.008495	0.4473
United Kingdom	Pound	1.562487	1.472800	77.5414
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.136020	0.128212	6.7502
Switzerland	Franc	0.649661	0.612370	32.2407
Canada	Dollar	0.704540	0.664099	34.9641
Singapore	Dollar	0.612350	0.577201	30.3891
Australia	Dollar	0.589550	0.555710	29.2576
Bahrain	Dinar	2.814196	2.652661	139.6599
Kuwait	Dinar	N/A	N/A	N/A
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.282868	0.266631	14.0379
Brunei	Dollar	0.610412	0.575374	30.2929
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000112	0.000106	0.0056
Thailand	Baht	0.024612	0.023199	1.2214
UAE	Dirham	0.288860	0.272279	14.3352
Korea	Won	0.000827	0.000780	0.0411
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.942600	49.6269
Germany	Mark	0.511292	0.481944	25.3739
France	Franc	0.152450	0.143698	7.5656
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453780	0.427733	22.5197
Austria	Schilling	0.072672	0.068501	3.6065
Belgium	Franc	0.024789	0.023366	1.2302
Italy	Lire	0.000517	0.000487	0.0256
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.158534	8.3467
Portugal	Escudo	0.004988	0.004702	0.2476
Spain	Peseta	0.006010	0.005665	0.2983
Luxemburg	Franc	0.024789	0.023366	1.2302
Ireland	Punt	1.269738	1.196855	63.013[illegible]

MOTORING

CESAR D. MANGAWANG, Editor

New EO jacking up prices of vehicles to hurt assemblers

BY TESSA RELAMPAGOS SALAZAR

A SUDDEN jerk of the Estrada administration's policies could injure the auto industry. This is how the Jan. 15, 2001's Executive Order 334 is seen by the auto industry.

President Estrada handed down his verdict Jan. 15 on the so-called "vehicles of the masses" that would jack up prices of vehicles. Truck makers of motor vehicles transporting 10 or more persons, and makers of vehicles for transport of goods, lament this development has put such vehicles beyond the reach of middle income and would-be first-time owners. The EO is expected to likewise affect the industry's "sunshine segments," the Asian utility vehicles and pickups.

Increase

EO 334 includes an outline of the new tariff rates of completely knocked down (CKD) units. To the surprise of truck assemblers, their duties had increased to 10 percent on Jan. 1, 2001, from just 3 percent in 2000. Assemblers said that the government had previously agreed to extend the 2000 tariff rates up to 2001.

"The basis of our knowledge was the one that came out in the newspapers that approved the 3-percent tariff of 2000 at least through 2001. We know very well how trucks, AUVs and buses are contributing for the development of the country, considering these are used for the transport of goods and people," said TMA (Truck Manufacturers Association) president Frank Nacua.

Nacua added emphatically: "We are asking the President to issue another EO modifying the tariff rates as recommended by the Cabinet-level Tariff Related Matters which recommends the extension of tariff for all automotive products for 2001. Please note the abrupt change of items B and C corresponding to the increase of 7 percent in tariff rates. We cannot understand why all of a sudden 3 percent was raised to 10. We are frankly at a loss."

"We are not complaining on the fact that tariff rates for cars, motorcycles were not increased. But why single out buses and trucks?" said another TMA member who refused to be identified.

Assemblers said that for trucks and buses, they have already ordered for specific requirements on the basis of the Cabinet-level TRM which previously recommended maintaining the tariff rates of 3 percent up to 2001.

Caught by surprise

"There was already a proposal submitted to the Tariff Commission last year. The EO caught us by surprise. Definitely, there will be a price impact. We are looking at a 5- to 10-percent increase on AUV prices alone. The AUVs are supposed to cater to the not-so-well-off. Instead of generating the expected revenues from the tariff increase, it would result in the decrease in sales and would probably lead to a shrinking AUV industry," said an industry source who also refused to be identified.

Industry analysts stressed that this tariff rate increase would not only affect assemblers but also the end-users. Nacua predicted mayhem in the adjustment of quotations for customers. "The customer may defer the order, or will shift to secondhand vehicles, which is a lost opportunity," he said.

Tariff headings

The TMA president, who attended the monthly board meeting presided by the umbrella organization of all automotive associations—the Philippine Automotive Federation Inc.—further reiterated that there are tariff headings of the EO 334 in which they find themselves in an awkward situation.

Two tariff headings governing buses—the 8702. 10 10—cover CKDs with restriction of 6 to 18 tons. "The rate in 2000 which is 3 percent, was maintained up to 2004. There is no argument about that, however, there is another tariff heading, 8702. 90 10 that covers CKDs that are participants of the motor vehicle development program. It was 3 percent in year 2000 but the EO declared an abrupt 10 percent in 2001.

"All of a sudden there's this increase. Every BOI-registered assembler who makes trucks will have to pass this on to consumers. That means another price increase," said another assembler who requested anonymity.

Truck makers have appealed to BOI acting secretary Gov. Tomas G. Aquino, who advised them to write to the National Economic and Development Authority which chairs the Cabinet level of TRM.

Campi (Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Phils. Inc.) secretary general Mario de Grano, in the meantime, stressed that the Campi position is to maintain the existing rates of year 2000 up to year 2004.

Other issues confronting the auto industry was the recent granting of then Executive Secretary Ronaldo Zamora of an SKD privilege to DaimlerChrysler-Norkis. Another issue is the auto industry also asking the government to have a written directive permanently putting a stop to secondhand vehicle auctions at Subic Bay, Zambales.

CAMPI, TMA REPORTS OUT

Toyota Revo (again) heads honor roll

BY VERNON B. SARNE

AT THE START of every year, car manufacturers await the final sales figures from the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Phils. Inc. (Campi) and the Truck Manufacturers Association to see who will own bragging rights in the sales department. Shortly after Campi and TMA release their official statistics—usually out by the second week of January—it is not unusual to see advertisements and press releases put out by various carmakers claiming leadership in a particular segment. Titles such as "The Best-Selling 4x4 Pickup" and "The No. 1 Midsize Sedan" are being thrown around as if the auto industry were some beauty pageant.

For everyone's enlightenment—particularly the market's—here is the official and final list of the bestsellers in their respective classes for the year 2000. There are no made-up or imagined categories here, only those sanctioned by the two automotive bodies.

As expected, Toyota is the runaway winner in the overall sales contest, moving a total of 24,006 passenger cars and commercial vehicles, representing an overwhelming 28.6 percent of the market. Toyota's total sales are up from its 1999 21,613-unit performance. Mitsubishi retains second overall place with a total of 16,102 units (19.2 percent), followed by Honda with 12,514 (14.9 percent). Nissan, receiving a crash course on Marketing 101 from Yulon Motor, finished a strong fourth with 9,736 (11.6 percent).

Honda again topped passenger car sales with 9,620 units (33.4 percent) sold. Honda's sales are slightly down from the 10,040 it chalked up in 1999. Toyota is second with 6,155 (21.4 percent), followed closely by Nissan with 5,669 (19.7 percent). Ford is in distant fourth with 2,014 units (7.0 percent), and even further down is Mitsubishi with 1,959 (6.8 percent).

In commercial vehicle sales, Toyota asserted its dominance with 17,851 units (32.4 percent), up from 1999's 15,675. Perennial contender Mitsubishi placed second with 14,143 units (25.7 percent). In third spot is Isuzu with 8,299 (15.1 percent).

Now let's hand out the individual credits. Drum roll, if you please...

AUVs: Toyota Revo

The one vehicle chiefly responsible for Toyota's dominance of the Philippine auto market, the Revo continued to sell like hotcake to top the AUV segment for the second year in a row since its launch in late 1998. Selling an incredible 11,818 units, the Revo practically owned half of the AUV market (45.8 percent). It combined with the old-bodied Tamaraw (953 units) to cement Toyota's firm grip on this mass-market category. The Mitsubishi Adventure is a distant runner-up with 6,824 (26.5 percent), and so is the Isuzu Hi-Lander with 4,303 (16.7 percent).

It should be interesting to see how the Revo will fare this year as the new Hi-Lander arrives on the scene.

Subcompact and compact sedans: Honda Civic

Honda's bread-and-butter sedan held its ground in the face of new launches and a lot of model upgrades. The Civic's reliability and high resale value enabled it to narrowly edge its fiercest competitor, Toyota's Corolla. The Civic sold a total of 5,456 units (21.1 percent) against the Corolla's 5,349 (20.7 percent). Nissan's Sentra, thanks to its high-end Exalta variant, placed third with 4,853 (18.8 percent). Another Honda, the smaller City, completes the top four with 3,391 units (13.1 percent).

Look for the compact sedan market to be the most active and most interesting segment this year as the new iterations of various models are scheduled to be launched within 2001. Leading the way is the all-new Civic which is hitting showrooms in the next couple of weeks.

Midsize sedans: Nissan Cefiro

Couple the Cefiro's excellence with the Taiwanese's marketing brilliance, and Nissan is a lock to dominate the midsize sedan category. The top honchos of Yulon Motor wasted no time in propping up the image of the Cefiro, even launching the very luxurious Brougham edition. In so doing, Nissan sold 686 Cefiros to capture 31.8 percent of the market. Not far behind is Honda's Accord with 610 units (28.3 percent), followed by Toyota's Camry with 338 (15.7 percent).

Luxury sedans: Volvo S80 2.0T

It might be a surprise to many that last year's best-selling luxury sedan is not made in Germany. Volvo's S80 2.0T is from Sweden and it made its Teutonic rivals eat Swedish dust, selling all of 112 units to push Volvo's overall sales to the top of the leaderboard with 225 units, or a convincing 28.1-percent market share. BMW, with different variants of the 3-Series, and Mercedes-Benz, with the E-class leading the way, occupy second and third spots with 158 and 155 units, respectively.

Expect BMW to be a lot more aggressive this year with the imminent arrival of the parent company.

Vans: Toyota Hiace

Toyota's Hiace is the hands-down winner in the relatively silent van segment, moving 3,076 units for a stunning 41.4-percent market share. Kia, with its trifecta of the Besta, the Pregio, and the Carnival, sold a total of 1,333 units to garner 17.9 percent of the market. Mitsubishi is third with the combined sales of the L300 and the Space Gear at 1,041 (14.0 percent). Our fearless forecast: Any Japanese carmaker who can beat others to the draw in launching a new van this year should reap the dividends in this lackadaisical segment.

4x2 pickups: Isuzu Fuego

Selling on performance and industry-leading diesel engine technology, the Fuego continued to whip the competition in the 4x2 compact pickup category, selling 2,014 units for a 37.9-percent market share. The Nissan Frontier grabbed second spot with 1,448 (27.2 percent), while Ford benefited from the combined sales of the Ranger and the F-150 4x2 to finish third with a total of 773 (14.5 percent).

4x4 pickups: Mitsubishi Strada

Arguably the best-looking among 4x4 compact pickups, the Mitsubishi Strada easily claimed top honors in its class with sales of 1,130 units for a market share of 29.6 percent. Ford again profited from the combined sales of the Ranger and the F-150 4x4 to place second with a total of 945 units (24.8 percent). The Explorer Sport Trac, which sold briskly during the last two months of 2000, was not listed. The Frontier is in third place with 878 units (23.0 percent).

Sport-utilities: Honda CR-V

Without the separation of 4x2 and 4x4 variants and of compact, midsize, and full-size vehicles, the SUV segment is basically the most convoluted classification in the listings. With all the sport-utes clustered together in one group, the Honda CR-V handily walked away with the category crown, selling 2,894 units for a 32.9-percent market share. A surprise winner in this segment is Ford's luxury sport-utility, the Expedition, which sold 1,757 units (20.0 percent), besting even Mitsubishi's Pajero which only posted 1,256 (14.3 percent). Expect the newer Toyota RAV4 and the Nissan Patrol Safari to shake the order in this segment this year.

Simple steps to risk-free parking

HERE are some tips provided by Isuzu Philippines Corp. on how to park safely and risk-free.

- **Find ample parking for your vehicle.** Better to be safe than sorry is the name of the game. Put enough distance between your vehicle and the next to avoid dinging your door or other parts of your vehicle.
- **Park between cars.** If finding a spacious spot is not possible, it is usually advisable to park between two cars that are already there because you are already aware of who will be parking next to you. Parking next to small four-door cars would also minimize damage to your vehicle since their doors are lighter and do not swing out as far.
- **Parallel parking.** Although there are many horror stories attributed to parallel parking, this is sometimes the best way to avoid accidents. There are no vehicles parked next to you. Just be sure to keep enough room between your vehicle and the cars on either end so they don't collide into your vehicle trying to get in or out of the parking area.
- **Not too close, not too far.** Parking too close to your destination is not always the best thing to do. For example, parking directly in front of your community's convenience store may not be a good idea. These are high traffic spots considering that they are usually full of people who are in a big hurry and dash in or out, increasing the potential damage to your vehicle.

Do not park too far out either. Isolated spots in the parking lots attract too much attention that may not be good to your well-being.

Mitsubishi introduces 2001 Lancer GLS

MITSUBISHI recently introduced a new variant in its Lancer model lineup—the Lancer 1600 GLS. This model is for people who wants the power and performance of the 1600 engines less the frills. The 2001 Lancer 1.6 GLS is available in both manual and in the Invecs-II Sportsmode automatic transmission.

The 2001 Lancer 1.6 GLS incorporates high-performance items which elevate its interior and exterior to a higher level from competitive brands. It also features a new face emphasized by the new chrome grille, new extended front bumpers and the quad multireflector headlamps.

At the rear, it features a new trunk lid with "duck tail" contour edge, which is accentuated by a new silver finish Mitsubishi 3-diamond mark. Its rear styling was also improved with the inclusion of a new license plate garnish, new rear combination lamps and a new extended rear bumper with side markers, while dual tail pipe mufflers give it a sporty look. Six spoke, 15-inch magwheels fitted on 195/55R15 tires are also standard on the Lancer GLS to improve road stability and traction.

Keeping the passengers in mind, Mitsubishi raised the level of comfort inside the cabin room of the 2001 Lancer GLS with an improved seat design with thicker seat foams that provide extra support and comfort for overall riding convenience. Power features are also standard such as power windows, door locks and power side mirrors. For a more enjoyable ride, the Lancer GLS is equipped with the Mitsubishi Motors audio design stereo by Pioneer. This stereo system incorporates a single in-dash CD player, preset equalizer and a 6-speaker system consisting of 2 sets of high power full speakers and a pair of tweeters to provide a clear and crisp sound system.

Other amenities include the Mitsubishi Motors Auto Security system that comes with alarm, keyless entry and engine immobilizer. For safety, the 2001 Lancer GLS is equipped with front and rear 3-point ELR seatbelts plus rear center lapbelt, plus a driver SRS airbag.

The 2001 Mitsubishi Lancer GLS is available at all dealerships nationwide. The introductory selling price for the Lancer GLS manual transmission is P650,000 while P680,000 for the Invecs-II sportsmode automatic transmission.

Couturiers of cars

ON THE ROAD

Aida Sevilla-Mendoza

CAN you afford a Jaguar ? If, like me, you can't, at least we can dream on. At the present exchange rate, a Jaguar reportedly costs at least P5 million. But another symbol of legendary motoring is in the works. According to a recent article datelined Turin, Italy by John Tagliabue of the New York Times Service, Volkswagen AG, which has acquired both Rolls Royce PLC and Bugatti, has engaged Italdesign-Guigiaro SpA to help revive Bugatti by designing models such as the opulent Chiron.

Italdesign-Guigiaro is one of several car designers and automotive engineering companies clustered in and around Turin, couturiers of cars whose classic auto shapes museums do not hesitate to display as works of art. To be sure, there are other boutique designers and niche manufacturers outside Italy, such as Bertrandt AG, Karmann GmBH (designer of the Mercedes-Benz CLK) and the engineering division of Porsche in Germany, not to mention the in-house auto design centers of Volkswagen in Barcelona, of Toyota at Sophia Antipolis in southern France and independent and in-house design companies in southern California.

But, says Tagliabue, the Turin-based design houses are hard to match for their agility at solving problems, their consistent panache and versatility. In this century, the Italian designers produced classics ranging from the exciting 320-kilometers-per-hour Ferrari Testarossa to the prosaic Volkswagen Golf. Aside from Italdesign-Guigiaro, there are Bertone (designer of the Opel Astra coupé), Pininfarina (designer of the Peugeot 408 coupé) and Lagardere Matra (designer of the Renault Espace minivan).

The recent consolidation in the automotive industry marked by the giants' takeover of specialty brands such as Bentley, Maserati and Ferrari, Fiat's alliance with General Motors and the merger of Daimler-Benz with Chrysler has slowed down business for the auto design houses. The automakers are rethinking their product plans and reflecting before developing new models to spur sales.

But this slowdown could be temporary. Although it is true that the mergers and acquisitions have reduced the number of major car manufacturers, it is also true that the number of platforms, or chassis, of the models they make has been reduced while the variations of models offered to customers based on these platforms have been increased. The Italian designers will rebound, auto industry analysts say, when the remaining automakers look for outside help in designing and engineering cars to distinguish their common platforms from the rest of the herd, and in keeping the cachet of the high-priced, tradition-laden marques they have acquired.

* * *

E-MAIL TIME. Regarding this column of Dec. 21, 2000, Carlo Sapera writes, "If I am not mistaken, Ford Lynx is another name for Laser. In other countries like Australia, Taiwan and Hong Kong, it is named as Laser." Mr. Sapera is correct. I checked with Maricar Parco of Ford Motor Co. Philippines, who said that the Lynx is known as the Laser in Thailand and Australia. It is only in Malaysia and the Philippines that it is known as the Lynx.

A reader who signed his name as "r" and gave his e-mail address as roy@ReadRite.com offered a suggestion for the E-Pass to increase its usefulness and thereby attract more subscribers. Why not set up E-Pass lanes also on parking lots of major malls? "r" proposes. "If they set up E-Pass stations at Ayala Alabang Town Center, Filinvest Mall and Glorietta, for example, an E-Pass user can park at Glorietta, drive down to Alabang and park at either the Alabang Town Center or Filinvest Mall without forking out cash. The added convenience would be enough incentive for more people to acquire the E-Pass despite its expensive price tag." An excellent idea, but at the moment parking is still free at Filinvest's Festival Mall and the Alabang Town Center except for the parking lot directly in front of the Makati Supermarket, where you have to get your parking ticket stamped to be exempted from the P10 parking fee.

TODAY'S BUMPER STICKER: Courtesy is contagious.

* * *

E-mail comments to aida_sevilla@pacific.net.ph

F1 car exhibit set Jan. 20

A MOST exciting auto event will be staged at the NBC Tent at the Bonifacio Global City. Top FM station Joey@92.3 FM brings you "Beyond Extreme Party" on Jan. 20.

It will feature the grand exhibit of Michael Schumacher's winning Formula 1 Ferrari car at 4 p.m. A party will then be held at 8 p.m. with Hyperbeat.

F1 fanatics will also get the chance to see the F1 live in action as Joey gives out a trip for two to the Malaysian Grand Prix in March. This plus other instant prizes will be given away to the crowd.

"Beyond Extreme Party" is brought to you by Joey@92.3 FM in cooperation with Shell Helix and Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co.

AUTOREX
LEADER AND PIONEER IN LEATHER SEAT COVER
WWW.AUTOREX.CKT1.COM
• Leather Seat Covers for All Kinds of Cars
• Imported Genuine Leather Upholstery & Leather Door Trim (Italian & Korean Leather)
• Starex Gold Chrome Grill & Accessories
Also Available: Automatic Air Freshener
• NO CRACKING, PEELING, TEARING, FADING & ILL FITTING
• FINEST QUALITY AND DESIGN WITH WARRANTY
BEWARE OF CHEAP IMITATIONS
OUR PRODUCTS ARE SOLD AT:
3678 Bautista St., Makati City Tel. no.: 728-9770/834-2396

No. 1 In Japan for 100 YEARS!
Maintenance-Free Rechargeable Batteries
YUASA
For Inquiries, please call:
TPL Industrial Sales Corp.
HOUSE OF BATTERIES
134 West Avenue, Quezon City 1104 Metro Manila
Tel.: 920-6231 • Telefax: 920-6233
Branches: Sto. Tomas, Batangas / Tel.: (043)778-27-82 • Naga City / Tel.: (054) 811-86-99
OPEN FOR DEALERSHIP

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 974808
PASAY ROAD, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8442417 ☎ 8432771 ☎ 8432780 Fax 8925578
ALI MALL, CUBAO, QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P200 per column centimeter P55 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections

Mondays to Saturdays	Sundays
12:00 noon	12:00 noon
Day before publication	every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

PERSONAL

CONSTRUCTION/ DESIGN

We Build Houses 4178012

COSMETOLOGY

FREE Skin-Facial 8951381

MASSAGE

Massage24hr 09193727855

RLX 4218394 09198457226

ASK GEORGE M/F 24 HRS SERVICES 8521874 100% HDSME

EXOTIC STYLE M 4376220

H-H-M-S MALE 7314016

Hotline Massage 4389489

Male #16 Palanan 7320659

MASSAGE (0919)433-3191 GEM

REFLEX 0919-2395660 Jojo

REFLEXOLOGY

Scorpion Massg 4372542

8180131/09197325729 M/F

Reflex Carla 7164898

ReflexRyan 09179760380

TUTORIAL LESSONS

ACCOUNTING/ENGL 8958517

Excellent Tutor 821-7963

Home Service T912-4688

LALUZ 5268216/5268270

MISCELLANEOUS

Bkpg/CPA Service 8958517

European Female Escort Private Parties 09179824530

FACIAL SKINCARE Training/ Workshop
Call:895-6031 L2011

HOUSEHOLD

FLOOR SANDING

JL Flr Sanding 4156731

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

Affordable Maids 872-0265

BEST MAIDS w/NBI 853-3504

Help Agency 5328376/5321947

LOW RATE MAID 9287096

MAIDS w/CLEAR 807-5788

MAIDS 9124701 9124706

PROV'L & CITY A/A MAIDS 8735271

Prov'l All Around Maids Driver H'Boy w/NBI 8735062 • 8737057

RELIABLE MAID YAYA 7418078

LIPAT BAHAY

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9260424•

9206784/4540520

CLOSED ALUM VAN 8212970

L-BAHAY 8383742/5447599

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

•LBahay7251645/7441698•

LIPAT AGAD 5220956

•LIPAT•731-6833

CARPET CLEANING

Carpet/Sofa Clean 8207068

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

ESSENSA EAST FORBES
FIRST CLASS 3BR RES
AT FORT BONIFACIO
7522580 • 8487388
0917-8351231
manila@cbrichardellis.com

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

MANDALUYONG

509m² LOt Area w/ Office & Whouse Parking Lot For 5 Vans Call 531-1151

HOUSE & LOT

ALABANG

AYALA ALABANG P16M 655-8371 • 0919-4037225

MAKATI

DASMA P35M Rush 8961369/8970270

**Magallanes V P13M Pls. Call 535-8356

MANILA

**Malate Nr Vito Cruz P5M 2Stry 3br 2cg 413-4411

PARANAQUE

BF Pque Foreclosed Asset 655-8371 • 0919-4037225

PASIG

**Greenwoods 204m² P5.5T Nr Club Hs 671-4421

QUEZON CITY

Nr Rbinson SMFview 260m² only P980T 'cheap'4140418

Palanan/Pao/SMH Hse 267m² P7.5m² 4110381

445m² Bung. 4cg 5.9M Bnew 5BR 4.7M 4162762

7G Tolentino NSEV Dil.Q. City 'w/4bedroom 9320402 /0915-8143767 Lei Castillo

Loyola Grand Villas LA401 sqm FA 460sqm 435-0005 / 426-0835

**Matatag 600m² 2Sty Conc. Back of LTO 725-4384

Mayon St, Sta. Mesa Ht Lot with Improv. 5346610-JoJo

Mira Nila QC 5br 5t&b 3stry 354m²FA 6.9M 928-9714 /-927-9609

Greenmeadows 26M 28M 42M 50M 09177914366; 4121825

GSIS Hills C-5/Quirino Hway New 3.9M LA300 4br 7215226

•ACROPOLIS 414m² P41T/m² •SOUTH DBO 721-5226

**Only P1.4M Leland Dr Novaliches 671-4421

Warehouse and Office w/3 Phase Lot 179 De Leon St., Dil. Quezon City Lei Castillo •9320402 /0915-8143767•

RIZAL

3BR 214m² 2car grge San Jose Rodriguez 649-2298

Cottonwood 5.5M 430sqm 09177914366; 4121825

SAN JUAN

Nice 4br hse nr Aurora Blvd P9M LA233 FA300 7215226

PROVINCIAL

Camella Barcelona Cavite • 874-1301 873-9956 •

New H/L Exclsv Grandpark Vlg Agui. H-way Cavite Nr Makro Security/Clubhs/Pool 4BR 3TB P2.1M&Term Neg. •7242020• •7263805• DETH/REGINA•

Over Looking Taal LotsH&L • 938-7619/(0918) 505-8604

OTHER AREAS

•LAGUNA BEL-AIR 3• LA120m² up 2-3BR w/prkg Joann 912-5775/8678942

LOT

MANILA

**Sta Cruz 270m² cor 7.5M Nr Laguna Hse 413-4411

**UST For Dormitory 900m² Nr. Gelinos VLot 413-4411

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

PASIG

**Pasig Comm'l Lot Nr Shaw 924 & 1100 P30T/m² 7232391

QUEZON CITY

West Triangle LA434 10.8M w/old hse DBO 721-5226

North View Capitol Hill LA180m² P5T/m² 928-2497

Nr Batasan 581m² P4T/m² 3720869;4542770;3720888

TEACHERS VILLAGE, QC LA290m² P14Tm² 928-2497

RIZAL

Prime Comml Lot 540sqm Felix Ave Cainta Direct Buyer Only 715-5469 Tess

SAN JUAN

**G'hills East V/Lot. 900sqm P35/m² 723-2391

**Lit Baguio SJ 450m² Com/Res'l Use 7232391

North G'hills Cor 1000 6br Den Spool P39M 7232391

PROVINCIAL

• Tagaytay 4 Lots • Near Rotonda 8741301

Tiaong Quezon 3.6Hec P600 /m² Town Hway 721-5226

Roxas City 189m² 533-0602

**Sherwood Cavite 345m² Bll L3 Tel 723-2391

**Tagaytay 2Adj Lots 780 & 805m² 723-2391

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

MAKATI

**Asia Tower Nr Gbelt 2br Sale/Rent 535-8356

**Cityland Pasong Tamo Studio P880T 535-8356

**Le Domaine 2br 2tb 1pkg R/S Salcedo V 535-8356

Easton 2-3BR Sale or Rent 09177914366; 4121825

Parc Regent 3BR 155m² 7M or 60T 09177914366; 4121825

PPII Studio Sale or Rent 09177914366; 4121825

LEGASPI VILLAGE
FCC Building
119 Rada Street,
Three (3) Office
Condos GFA/SQM.
48.88; 35.50; 46.00
@ P3.37M; P2.45M;
P3.18M
Bargain Based Land
Value P94,500/sqm.
Tel. Nos. 818-2781;
751-5472

MANILA

**Pasay FA158m² New 5.5M Nr Zamora 4br 413-4411

NrlaSalle 3sty3BR T899-2148

MANDALUYONG

Pioneer Hland 1BR 2.8M 15T 09177914366;4121825

**Pioneer Highlands Studio 31m² P2M 671-4421

**Pioneer Highlands 2br 1cg P3.3M 671-4421

**Wack Twin 3br FF 1br Condo 7232391

PASIG

B/New TH 2 stry/3BR/1CG 60-75m²P1.9M 4157979

Ortigas Ctr 2-3BR Sale/Rent 09177914366; 4121825

QUEZON CITY

**Blueridge Bnew Nr C5 3br 2tb P6.5M 671-4421

Condo Cubao "New" P1.3M "EZ" Terms nego. 9126976 9124428 4381480

Fairview 3BR 2TB 1CG Rene 150347915 / 4302966

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

QUEZON CITY

BNew Condo nr Gilmore P3.5M 2BR 82m² 7215226

Rent/Sale Mariposa Town House 3br 3tb 724-8729

SAN JUAN

**G'hills Condo 1br FA58 P3M 723-2391

**G'hills Condo 3br P5.5M w/ Huge Blcony 7232391

**G'hills Ofc Condo 70m² w/ Parking FFur P32M 7232391

**G'Hills Twnhse 3br FA180 2car Grg 7232391 P6.8M

**G'Hils Annapolis Condo 3br P9M 7232391

Grnhills OB Club Filipino 40sqm + Parking F-Furn P1.8M or Rent P12T/mo. 633-7601-03

Royal View Condo Lt. Artiaga 3.3M 3br 2tb 130m² 721-5226

OTHER AREAS

AYALA Center Cebu Holdings 209sqm Office for Rent / Sale Telefax Ms. Sison 831-6601 for details

MEMORIAL LOT

Loy Mkna Lot 8386645/52

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

QUEZON CITY

4Rent Roxas Dist 415-3689

HOUSE

LAS PINAS

S'dierll renovated 9226570

MANILA

MAGALLANES BUNG 3BR 1DN NWLY RENOV POOL 7337623-03 OFF HRS.

SAN JUAN

East Ghills P65T 4br 3tb LA950 FA400 Vac. 7215226

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1BR Furn South Str Plz **844-7524**

MANILA

NrlaSalle 3sty3BR T899-2148

QUEZON CITY

2sty Thse 2BR2TB West Riverside St. SFDM CALL 3725701/8962546 P10T

SAN JUAN

STATE CENTER ORTIGAS 86 SQM ++ OFC#242-1521

**G'Hills Sev Studio 3br P18-40T 7232391

BEDSPACE

P975/mo. AIRCON Cubao 454-4005; 911-3361

LADIES MAKATI 8963093

Lds Nr Alabang Town Ctr Pvt Bath Cln SF 842-8748

LOAN & MORTGAGE

Fast Loan R/Estate & Car Financing Avail 4154936

BUSINESS RENTAL

P1,800/mo. Stalls MALATE T-400-6420 / 23

P5,500/mo. Office Cubao 454-4005; 911-3361

**Citibank Ctr Paseo Mktl Sale/Rent 200m² 535-8356

Mkt Ofc G/F 100m² 6713876

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

HONDA

May 2000 Civic 1.5 A/T LXI 5K P540K 719-4311

HYUNDAI

'94 Grace 215T 7313492

'97 Grace 268T 731-3492

'97 Grace 268T 731-3492

KIA

'96 Besta 240T 7313492

MITSUBISHI

L300 T-9273453; 4538295

96 Mitsubishi Pajero Green •874-1301 873-9956•

TOYOTA

**93 Corolla GII 1St Owner 79 Crown 35T 725-4384

BOATS

LCT 750 DWT price 10M neg Call 7222044/7210789

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

Van Coaster Bus 440-91-71

CARS•VANS•8978113•8955888 BUS•CSTER•BRIDAL•8969956

L300 T 4161105 / 7411356

L300 Versa Van 578-8917

MB100 Hi-Ace Starex 9483535

STAREX L3 9121809/7268388

Sunflower Transport Starex, L300, Coaster Bus Cars 637-7396 631-3496

UDrive w/drivr Cars/L300/ MB/4x4/Bus 8908667-69

•Car;Vars4535288;9296250

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CAR$ 8990215

CAR LOAN

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523-24

1.5% w/o taking car OR/CR R/EstateLoan LO%4154936

2% w/o taking car 7262780

2% w/o Taking Car 3670169

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PETS

PregnantGDaneHarle 4140418

SPORTING GOODS

Billiard P25T & P30T All Marble Top New 761-9453

B.Table B'new w/accessories •(02)8014494/8020566•

Imported Billiard, P-Pong, Foosball, Hockey Tables Call 367-3784 to 88

STRIKEMASTER Bowling & Billiards Sales & Rentals T-9341569

Imported Billiards Complete Acc Free Delivery & Install'n 8618714 to 16; 8613123

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING ROLEX others, High Price CASH CALL 09178142309/7269687

Unused Educ Plan 6469097

H.S./COLLEGE G Lopez 7137284

FIGHTING COCK

Rdy2Fight 30 Kamuning RdQC

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

MISCELLANEOUS

Stainless Fshball-Sfdtdrnk Cart P12T Call 2815233

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

Dental Tech 4158315 L105

SALES AGENT 701-0640

FEMALE

• WANTED • SECRETARY w/ Accounting Background Bring Bio-data 8101 Pearl Drive Ortigas Cntr Pasig City

DOMESTIC HELPER Famly Nurse 303-9476/5623962

Office Staff 913-4470 Maan

MALE/FEMALE

CARE GIVER T-5280730

CHEF For MACAO 7yrs exp in Italian Cuisine. Send a copy of your Curriculum Vitae w work exp, Criminal Record & Contact no.@ 00853751327

★ IMMIGRATE ★ LIVE and WORK in CANADA 8175511/8944950

•Ofc Staff 9134470 Hazz

Off Staff 9134470 Mr. Co

Office Staff 913-4470 Arnel

WANTED RESIDENTS PEDIA, IM, OBGYNE ST. MARTIN DE PORRES CHARITY HOSPITAL 70A. BONIFACIO ST. SJMN TEL. 7230741 to 43

WASHINGTON TUTORIAL CTR. English Teacher 8258804

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION Assistance provide employers to qualified CAREGIVER/ NANNY in Canada and Assistance to Independent Applicants and Tourists Visa Call Andy or Max Anchela 725-7185

ENTERTAINMENT VAULT INC. has extension office located at 2872 Finlandia St. Bgy San Isidro Makati City Tel. No. 817-9611

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

RTW Cash/Consign 3738821

CONDENSED MILK 250KGS BURGER PATTY TEL 2870022

Earn Cash Today 895-1381

Earn Dollar$ T-2926137 http://all.at/webBiz

EARN FROM HOME. TRAVEL OPPORT. ROGER 578-8917

ESSENTIAL SEMINAR FOR THOSE WHO INTEND TO WORK ABROAD Phone: 891 5602 & 891 5632 OFFICE HOURS: 9am-6pm MONDAY - FRIDAY

★ IMMIGRATE ★ LIVE and do business in CANADA 8175511/8944950

JEWELRY NO CAPITAL CONSIGN Term Must be Employed 2929084

Learn how to use Computer & Internet & Earn dollars for a limited amount **Call 810-3219 0917-5378119**

PEARL PLAZA MALL Tambo Pque 'Tiange' BAZAAR semi or permanent spaces available CHEAP 7154492• 7134204•7131423 - for appt.

RTW Cash/Term 7299681

RTW P28 up Call 723-2959

SAMIE INT'L. RECRT. & GEN. SVCS.

2127 SAINT GOTHARD BLDG. A. MABINI STREET
MALATE, MANILA
LICENSE NO. 036-LB-020599-R
ACCREDITATION NO. 46999-2
TEL. NO. 536-5278 / 536-3394

WE ARE IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING CATEGORY IN SAUDI ARABIA.

FURNITURE DESIGNER (with knowledge of Auto Cad)
CARPENTRY MACHINE MAINTENANCE
SOFA UPHOLSTERER
THERMOKINK TECHNICIAN (X-Abroad)
THERMOKINK DIESEL MACHINE TECHNICIAN (X-Abroad)
MECHANICAL QC WELDER WITH EXPERIENCE
LAND SURVEYOR WITH EXPERIENCE
RIGGER
SAFETY OFFICER
TIG WELDER
COATING INSPECTOR
WELDING INSPECTOR
ESTIMATING, ENGINEER, ELECTRICAL
ESTIMATING ENGINEER, MECHANICAL

ALL CATEGORIES ARE THREE (3) YEARS ABOVE EXPERIENCE.

REQUIREMENT : RESUMÉ PAPERS WITH JOB DESCRIPTION, CERTIFICATE OF EMPLOYMENT WITH 2x2 ID PICTURE. INTERESTED APPLICANTS OUTSIDE MANILA SEND RESUMÉ TO SAMIE INT'L.

FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY
NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED
BEWARE OF ILLEGAL RECRUITERS
THIS AD IS APPROVED BY P.O.E.A.

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY

A large reputable Bank in Makati is accepting proposals to prequalify to bid for the:

Preparation and Production of an Annual Report

The above job will include design and layout, typesetting, photography including all photographic materials and processing, color separation, printing and binding, and related services. The Bank requires the following to be submitted together with the formal offer to prequalify:

1. Proof that the offeror has at least five (5) years experience in the design and layout, photography and production/printing of Annual Reports.
2. Track record in the production of Annual Reports for the top 500 corporations in the Philippines.
3. Written conformity to the following conditions:
   - Background check specially from previous clients shall be conducted by the Bank.
   - Visit to check on equipment and other facilities.
   - A refundable deposit of Manager's Check of P50,000.00 shall be submitted when required.
4. Audited Financial Statement for the last 2 years (1999-2000).
5. Copy of Income Tax Return for the last 2 years (1999-2000).
6. Proof of registration of business name.
7. List of references of previous clients.

DBP reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality therein or to accept such bids as may be considered most advantageous to the Bank. The decision of the Bank is final and binding.

Please address formal offer to The Chairman, Annual Report Committee, P.O. Box 1996, Makati Central Post Office 1200, Makati City. The Committee shall accept all submissions postmarked not later than **January 31, 2001.**

(PDI – Jan 18 & 19, 2001)

Ateneo de Manila University

Loyola Heights, Quezon City

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

The School of Science and Engineering of the Ateneo de Manila University under a CHED Center of Excellence project invites all interested parties to pre-qualify and bid to supply, deliver and install any or all of the following equipment in its research laboratories:

1	**Universal Testing Machine**
1	**Portable Photosynthesis Measurement System**
1	**Gel Documentation System**

Pre-qualification forms may be obtained from the Office of the Dean, School of Science and Engineering, 3rd Floor, Science Education Complex, Ateneo de Manila University, Loyola Heights, Quezon City from **January 15 to 24, 2001** upon the presentation of a letter of intent and certified true copies of SEC certificate of registration and latest business permit. Deadline for the submission of forms and requirement is at 5:00 p.m. on **January 24, 2001.**

The Ateneo de Manila University reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any required formality and accept the offer most advantageous to the University. It assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of bids nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(PDI - Jan 18 & 19, 2001)

Mini Job Fair AT THE Glorietta

The **INQUIRER'S JOB MARKET** will hold a **"mini" Job Fair** on **January 24 to 26, 2001;** 1 to 8 p.m. at Level 3, Glorietta III, Ayala Center, Makati City (near Racks). Be part of this recruitment special and be ncluded in our **Resumé Reserve** categorized database.

PLACE A 60 COL. CM. AD (MINIMUM SIZE) IN THE JANUARY 21, 2001 ISSUE OF JOB MARKET TO ENJOY THE FOLLOWING:

- **FREE Job Market Online** placement for five (5) Job categories
- **FREE Job Market** copies for job seekers on the 3-day affair
- **FREE** access to our **Resumé Reserve** databank gathered during the event
- **FREE** posting and exposure to participating companies in our print ads
- Resumés gathered during the event intended to a particular advertiser will be forwarded as an added service to the said company

COME TO OUR MINI JOB FAIR AND GET THE CHANCE TO:

- Input your resumés directly into Resumé Reserve via our computers
- Get free Job Market copies
- Submit application to a particular company (Bring at least 10 to 20 copies of resumés)

FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL

Direct: 897-2535;
Trunk Line: 897-8808
locals 514, 516, 237, 243

JOB MARKET
AYALA CINEMAS
ACCENT·MICRO TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) 8974808
PASAY ROAD, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8442417 ☎ 8432771 ☎ 8432780 8925578
ALI MALL, CUBAO, QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8506465 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

RATE
P200 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)
DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

"You will be forever in our hearts MOMMY."

Dra. Petrona Domingo Vda. De Noblejas

Passed away peacefully in the Grace of our Lord on January 16, 2001 at the age of 76.

Her husband **Dr. Vicente H. Noblejas** (†); her children **Benjamin** and **Carmelita Bustos**, **Rolando** (†) and **Lourdes Noblejas**, **Jose** and **Ophelia Vidal**, **Onofre** and **Teresita Ramirez**, **Melchor** and **Edelmira Salazar**, **Ernesto** and **Crisanta Noblejas**, **Evelyn D. Noblejas**; her grandchildren **Michael**, **Peter**, **Miriam**, **Baby**, **Niño**, **Marichie**, **Net-Net**, **Jenny**, **Jemerrick**, **Jeffrey**, **Cherrie**, **John-John**, **Jane**, **Anthony**, **Kate**, **Trish**, **Vincent Gian**, **Jay-Jay**, **Christine**, **Edmund**; her great grandchildren **Alex**, **Faith**, **Red-Red**, **Ten-Ten**, **Chris**, **Tim**, **Archie**, **Christian**; her sisters **Encarnacion Limpahan**, **Anatalia Paez** (†); sisters-in-law **Salud** (†), **Iluminada**, **Araceli** and **Teresita** (†); brothers-in-law **Lucio**, **Ramon**, **Antonio** (†) and **Edilberto** (†); nephews, nieces request the pious readers to please pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on January 21, 2001 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Dr. Hernando Hilario Y Alejandrino

of

Bustos, Bulacan
(Husband of the late Concepcion Lipana Hilario)

Died in the Grace of our Lord on January 13, 2001 at 11:00 p.m. in Bustos, Bulacan at the age of 91.

His bereaved children **Isabelita** and **Joseph Chen**, **Rufina** and **Richard Robinson**, **Lourdes**, **Michael** and **Edelene Hilario**; grandchildren **Cecille** and **David Chen**, **Mark**, **April** and **BJ Hilario**; and other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City. On Thursday, January 18, 2001, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass, his body will be brought home to their residence in Bustos, Bulacan.

Interment will be on Saturday, January 20, 2001 at the Bustos Memorial Park, after the 2:00 p.m. Mass at the Sto. Niño Parish Church, Bustos, Bulacan.

Eternal life will swallow up that which can die. God made us for this very reason and He has given us the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again.

2 Cor. 4:14

"I am the resurrection and the life.
He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever believes in Me will never die."
John 11:25-26

In Loving Memory

JONATHAN "Johnny" MATTHEW TEE

January 19, 1945 -- January 18, 1999

On his **2nd Death Anniversary**

His wife **Linda**; daughter **"Jet-Jet"**; sisters **Bernie** and **Charlotte**; auntie **Min**; request relatives and friends to remember him in their prayers.

The Holy Mass will be offered at the following Churches:

Santuario de San Jose *Greenhills*	6:15 AM and 6:15 PM
Mary the Queen Parish *Greenhills*	7:00 AM
St. Francis Parish Church *Shaw Blvd.*	6:00 AM and 6:00 PM
Redemptorist Church *Baclaran*	5:45 AM
St. Alphonsus Mary de Ligouri *Magallanes*	7:00 AM and 6:00 PM

We the family of the late

RENIER "PAOLO" W. GALANG

who joined his Creator on January 12, 2001

sincerely convey our deepest gratitude to all those who offered Masses and prayers and attended the funeral rites and condoled with us. Please continue praying for his eternal happiness.

Ret. 2nd Let. Roberto S. Ani (Mang Ani)

Philippine Air Force
Peacefully joined his Creator on January 15, 2001 at the age of 63.

His bereaved wife **Fortunata "Atang"**; daughters **Mayette** and **Joy**; son-in-law **Marius** and grandchildren **Mariquitte**, **Matt**, and **Mariel**; brother **Toto**; sister **Inday**; other relatives, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Our Lady of Fatima Chapel, Marulas, Valenzuela City.

Interment will be on Sunday, January 21, 2001 at Himlayan Cemetery, Angat, Bulacan.

LUISA IRINEO ENRIQUEZ

Peacefully joined her Creator on January 10, 2001.

Her remains lie in state at her residence at Lemery, Batangas.

Mass will be held on Saturday, January 20, 2001, at 3:00 o'clock p.m. at the Lemery Parish Church.

Interment will be at Lemery Catholic Cemetery, immediately after the Mass.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.
Always caring... **INQUIRER OBITUARIES**
OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)
WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments
DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031, 715-1027
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch: A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu
Tels. 346-2543, 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City
Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City
Tels. (082) 227-1201, 227-1258
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road, Makati City
Tel. 894-5932 to 34

DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St., Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102, 741-5125, 741-5133 • Fax No. 711-3064
F. SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City
Tels. 646-1725, 646-1730
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila
Tels. 2812963, 2813034, 2810522
FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
(045) 322-5247 ; (045) 888-2959
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City
Tels. 671-7909, 641-1735
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila
Tels. 642-6181 to 82

HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Sucat, Parañaque City Tels. 825-1296, 825-1291
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur
Tel. 722-2730, Cell (0917) 5680136 ; (0917) 5680145
Manila #23 Palo St., Project 2, Quezon City Tel. 434-3268
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1501 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapua, Manila
Tels. 711-6931 to 35; 732-4795
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City Tels. 749-3806 to 11
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City Tel. (074) 443-3337
LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe, Makati City Tel. 895-1011 to 19
MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway, Antipolo, Rizal Tels. 645-1855, 682-0209; 682-0210
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tels. 713-5231 to 35; 714-0857; 714-0868

ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St.
Mandalagan, Bacolod City Tel. 433-7132
RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 Cementina St., Pasay City Tels. 831-1204
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City Telefax 724-4139, 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City Tels. 852-8228; 852-7284
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
16-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila
Tels. 749-3679, 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
296 Quezon Ave., Quezon City Tels. 372-5084; 410-9286 / 87
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue, 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City
Tels. 831-3797, 844-7846, 843-1801, 845-4836
MT. SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL
Arellano St., Dagupan City
Tels. (075) 515-5960, 515-6529, (0919) 349-7131

ANNOUNCEMENT

You can now place your Inquirer Classified Advertisements (Obituaries · Recruitment Ads · Biddings · Classified Lines) through the following Provincial Outlets:

LUZON

Baguio City
Mr. Avelino Nonog
Avel and Tita Newsstand
#12 Dahlia Alley, Maharlika Livelihood Center
Baguio City
Tel. Nos. (074) 442-6889/443-4367
Mr. Victor Navarro
Times City News Agency
#9 Mt. Province Alley,
2nd Floor Maharlika Livelihood Center,
Baguio City
Tel. Nos. (074) 443-4533/445-3176/443-4381
Mr. Rey Elatan
Cora's News Agency
#58 Magnolia Alley
Maharlika Livelihood Center, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 442-8176
Mr. Juanito Castro
J & R Agency
Parking Lot Upper Mabini Street
(fronting Victoria Supermart),
Baguio City
Tel. Nos. 444-6526, (074) 304-2611
Cellphone No. (0918) 280-0175
Batangas City
Mr. Romero Clarin c/o Ms. Wilma C. Dayrit
RVC Newstand, 7 P. Burgos Street,
Batangas City
Tel. No. (043) 723-4426

Mr. Ramon P. Perez c/o Ms. Dodie Simon
Perez Educational & Magazine Store
R&S Perez Building, 46 D. Silang Street
Batangas City
Tel. Nos. (043) 723-0616/(043) 980-6942
Bulacan
Mr. Manolo Iñigo
Fausta Village, Tabing-Ilog, Marilao, Bulacan
Telefax (044) 933-1214
EasyCall 141-267284
Mr. Raymond Carlos
Tel. No. (044) 248-8484
Mr. Rodolfo D. Gregorio
263 Rizal St., Tarcan, Baliwag, Bulacan
Tel. No. (044) 766-1280
Office : Care Communications
2nd Floor North Star Bldg.,
Barrera St., Poblacion, Baliwag, Bulacan
Tel. No. (044) 766-0270
Cabanatuan City
Mr. Ruel Capule
#7 Santander Street, Kapt. Pepe Subdivision
Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
Tel. No. (044) 463-0823
E-mail: rucap@mozcom.com
City Supermart
Sanciangco Street,
Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
Tel. No. (044) 463-1149
Mr. Hayward Pablo
#837 Zuniga Street,
Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
Tel. No. (044) 463 2002

Laguna
Mr. Fernando B. Hernadez
Residence: #10 Marathon Street
Mariquita Pueblo, Dita, Sta. Rosa, Laguna
Tel. Nos. (049)531-2778/
(049)837-3623/(0912) 818-3559
Store: #250 J.P. Rizal Street, Cabuyao, Laguna
Tel. No. (049) 531-4829
Ms. Susan D. Baybay
MSC Data Exchange Co.
55 Paseo de Escudero, San Pablo City
Tel. No. (049) 562-4597
Fax No. (049) 562-1444
Email: sbaybay@msc.edu.ph
Isabela
Ms. Alice Pua Uy
Lola's Store, Rizal Street,
Cauayan, Isabela
Tel. No. (078) 652-2279
Ms. Catalina Javier
Fredlin News and Magazine Agency
#34 Provincial Road,
Centro East, Santiago City
Tel. No. (078) 682-8652/682-3620
E-mail: fredeline@mozcom.com
Legaspi City
Ms. Irene Solmirano
Brgy. 34 Oro Site, Legaspi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-1274/480-8099
Cathy P. Sendin
SM Prieto Marketing
Quezon Avenue, Legaspi City
Tel. No. (052) 214 3043/214 3648/820 3748

Lipa City
Ms. Matilde Maniego c/o Ms. Rose Perce
Lifelines Bookstore
Pacia Building, T.M. Kalaw Street (near Lipa Bank)
9217 Lipa City
Tel. No.: (043) 7566726/7561330
Email: nvrinsur@ala-eh.net
Naga City
Mr. Ramon S. Sia
RS Newspaper and Magazine Headquarters
Ground Floor Supermarket,
General Luna Street, Naga City
Tel. No. (054) 473-8711
Nueva Vizcaya
Himmler John L. Manzano
Nueva Vizcaya Travel & Tours
Poblacion North Solano, Nueva Vizcaya
Telefax No. (078) 3267172
Pampanga
Mr. Noel Cabaero
Lot 4 Block 20 Phase II Corner St. Peter and St. Jude Streets
St. Jude Village, San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel. Nos. (045) 963-3718/(0918) 505-6249
Gopiao Building, Dolores Homesite
McArthur Highway, Dolores, San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel. (045) 961-3787
e-mail: chersum@pamp.pworld.net.ph
Pangasinan
Mr. Vic Chua
JVC Cargo Forwarders Co. Ltd.
243 Rizal Street, Calasiao, Pangasinan
Tel. No. (075) 522 0505/522 6550

Mr. Mario Novales
Marigold Bookstore
AB Fernandez Avenue,
Dagupan City, Pangasinan
Tel. No. (075) 522-2328
Fax No. (075) 522-0079
Mr. Herminio Romero
Romero's Trading
Rizal Street, Poblacion, Mangaldan, Pangasinan
Tel. No. (075) 523-5504/523-5872
Puerto Princesa
Ms. Angelita Leonor
Leonor's Merrimart
E. Valencia Street, Puerto Princesa City
Tel. Nos. (048)434-2200/433-2631/433-2551
Mr. Tomas Choy Tan
40 Quezon Street, Puerto Princesa City
Tel. No. (048) 433-2692
Cell No. (0918) 2332737
Tuguegarao
Mr. Richmont Pobre
Agdamag Newsstand
Stall #7 Tuguegarao Central Market
Gomez Street, Tuguegarao, Cagayan
Tel. No. (078) 844-1180/844-0364
E-mail: pobre@cag.pworld.net.ph
Tarlac City
Mr. Erlie I. Duduaco c/o E.D. Batteries
F. Tañedo Street, Tarlac City
Tel. No. (045) 982-0653
Cell No. (0917) 448-0551
Fax No. (045) 982-1755

People, Events & Products

Rez Gopez-Sindac, Editor

WB project for farmers' organizations rated excellent

THE Agrarian Reform Communities Development Project (ARCDP) is performing satisfactorily and has been rated excellent in some areas of its project implementation. This was revealed by a recently concluded Implementation Review Mission conducted by the World Bank in various Agrarian Reform Communities (ARCs).

The ARCDP is a $50 million loan portfolio granted by the WB to the Philippine government way back in 1997 and is being implemented by the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR). Its overall objective is to assist the government in strengthening ARCs farmers' organizations to enable them to plan and undertake development activities which would raise farmers' income and provide them more opportunities for sustainable growth and poverty reduction. This is being done through a three-component integrated approach that includes Community Development and Technical Assistance (CDTA), Agriculture and Enterprise Development (AED) and Rural Infrastructure (RI).

In the field visits conducted by the combined WB/ARCDP/DAR mission in 6 provinces in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, the team observed clear evidence that the project's three components are generating synergistic benefits. The bank team noted that based on implementation performance and results, the ARCDP continues to be one of the best performing projects in the bank-financed portfolio in the Philippines.

The latest review mission took into account the Department of Agrarian Reform's updated agrarian reform/rural development strategies and the recent DAR organizational development proposals which aims to promote a more integrative and sustainable approach to implementing CARP and providing effective support services in order to increase household incomes of low-income Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries (ARBs).

BOMBO RADYO TOP LEVEL MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Bombo Radyo Philippines, the No. 1 radio network in the country, recently concluded its annual Top Level Management Conference 2001 at the Asian Institute of Management Conference Center in Makati City. The conference, with the theme "Radio on the Global Perspective," was participated in by no less than the network's president and CEO Rogelio M. Florete, (inset) as well as the officers and top executives of its 43-strong Bombo Radyo and Star FM stations nationwide. Guest speakers included Dr. Nonie Azarcon of PANA, Dr. William Torres of Moscom, Rey David of Great Wall Advertising and Dr. Elvira Zamora of the University of the Philippines.

SINULOG BAZAAR 2001

The 2nd Sinulog Export Overruns and Consumer Bazaar 2001 is scheduled at the SM City Cebu Trade Hall from Jan. 12-31. The fair coincides with the world-famous Sinulog Festival, Cebu's biggest annual event. Organized by L.A. Ducut & Company Inc. (LADCI), the bazaar is intended to be a unique experience for Sinulog visitors and revelers as a showroom of shopping convenience for world-class items at reasonable prices. Signing the memorandum of agreement are (from left) Marites Neis, SM City Cebu Trade Hall manager and Lilibeth D. Abais, LADCI managing director. Witnessing are (from left) Mayen Fortuna, SM Cebu Trade Hall assistant; and Marilou Limon, LADCI project assistant for sales. For inquiries, contact the LADCI Manila liaison office at 873-1198 and 873-8202; Cebu office at (032) 232-3729 and 232-3740.

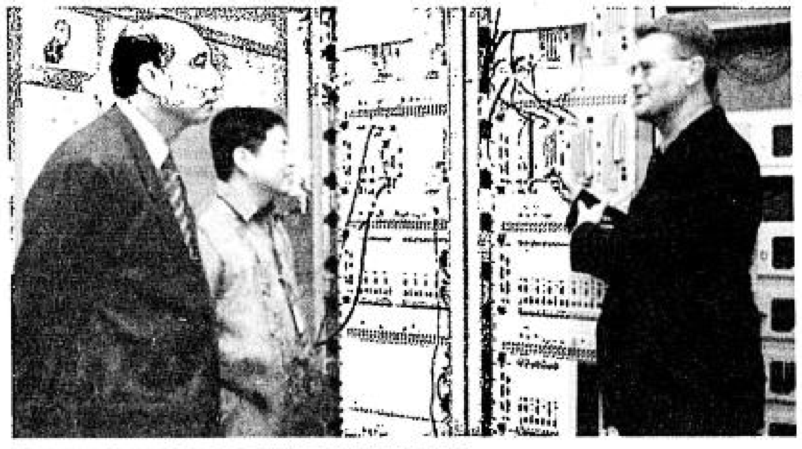
Samsung mobile phone saves driver's life

SAMSUNG Electronics France received a letter of gratitude from Henri Garella for the life-saving role his Samsung mobile phone (model: SGII 600) played just before New Year.

Garella's car plunged into a ravine. With the roof caved in, Garella was trapped and could not get out of the car. Meanwhile, muddy water rushed in and rose rapidly up to his neck. As a last resort, Henri Garella fished around for his phone through the water and mud. He found it and tried calling for emergency assistance. The call went through! Henri Garella was rescued in 30 minutes.

This story has gotten around France, causing quite a stir among European mobile phone users. Samsung mobile phones are recognized as one of the top brands in France today. The SGH-2400 was elected "Consumers' Preferred Mobile Phone in 2000." Henri Garella's amazing story attests to the reliability and unbeatable performance of Samsung mobile phones under extreme operating conditions.

Of his experience, Garella happily attests, "This Samsung phone saved my life! I will always keep it with me no matter what I do or where I go."



3G TECHNOLOGY EXPERIMENT

Marku Nieminen, general manager for Smart GSM, Nokia Philippines, makes a presentation on the experimental 3G system to Napoleon L. Nazareno, Smart president and CEO; and NTC deputy commissioner Nestor C. Dacanay. Wireless services leader SMART Communications Inc. is cooperating with mobile communications giant Nokia in conducting trials of the first experimental 3rd Generation (3G) wireless communications systems here in the Philippines. 3G is the next generation of mobile communications technology that is capable of handling video conferencing, image, music streaming, mobile Internet and high-speed data communications services.

Olympics for special children

DE LA Salle University – Manila will stage the 11th annual "For The Kids," a mini-Olympics for special children on Jan. 21 at the Football field. Four hundred differently-abled kids from different institutions in Metro Manila will take part in sports activities (basketball, running and walking), and parlor games (sack race, newspaper dance, obstacles course).

Participating schools and centers are Aurora Quezon, Barrio Obrero, Commonwealth Corpus Christi, Elsie Gaches, General Hizon, Hospicio de San Jose, J. Lukban, J. Rizal, Kaligayan, Kaisaki, Legarda;

P. Burgos, P. Gomez, Patubaes, Rafael Palma, Sta. Ana, Stepping Stone, Sto Niño, St. Francis, Novaliches and Granada.

The activity is organized by the Lasallian Outreach Volunteer Effort, a volunteer program of DLSU-Manila's Center for Social Concern and Action (COSCA). Conceptualized as a supplementary activity of COSCA and the Physical Education Department, the "For the Kids" grew to become the biggest socio-civic event on campus.

DUSIT TAMIYA CUP CONTRACT SIGNING

Dusit Hotel Nikko Manila, in a joint project with Lil's Futaba Hobby Center and the Philippine M4WD Racing Association, hosts the Dusit Tamiya Cup, a 12-leg racing tournament for Tamiya 4WD enthusiasts aged 6-13 years old, starting on Jan. 21, 2001. Registration starts at 7 p.m. at the Dusit Poolside with a consumable P300 net entrance fee. Sealing the contract signing with a handshake are (from left) Dusit Hotel Nikko Manila's general manager Chiyuki Fujimoto and Lil's Futaba Hobby Center propreitor Shakespeare Chan. Looking on are Dusit's assistant food and beverage director Albert Banag, and Lil's Lily LilBi Chan. For more information, call 867-3333 extensions 3311-3315.

DINNER FOR TAMBULI CLIENTS

Tambuli Resorts hosted cocktails and dinner for their valued clients and supporters, on the occasion of their 22nd anniversary last Nov. 13, 2000. The party was attended by Cebu's top travel agents and travel industry friends. Tambuli Resorts is composed of Tambuli Beach Club East and West, Cebu Beach Club, Bohol Beach Club and Blue Sky Sea Resort. Attending the affair are Rolly Jimenez, VP operations and general manager; Marichu Diokno, director of sales; Baby Hiponia, F&B manager; Dawnie Roa, DOT Region VII director; Cecil Saa, Blue Horizons branch manager; Alice Queblatin, managing director of Southwind Travel and Tours Inc.; Bing Miranda, general manager of Inbound of Baron Travel; and Nila Andrada, formerly general manager and now consultant of Baron Travel.

BITS & Clips

Magic: The gathering players' tournaments

MAGIC: The Gathering players will have the opportunity to experience new planeshift expansion before its official release by participating in the pre-release tournaments scheduled on Jan. 27 at Park Avenue, Robinson's Galleria. Group I starts at 10 a.m. and Group II at 3 p.m.; and on Jan. 28 at the Cinema Level of Festival Mall Alabang at 11 a.m. Magic: The Gathering is distributed in the Philippines by Neutral Grounds Inc. Magic: The Gathering, Invasion, Planeshift and Top Deck are trademarks of Wizards of the Coast. For more information call 726-1831 or 634-8982 and look for Francis, or email at mtg-op@metro.net.ph.

ASLP marks 47th anniversary

THE ASSOCIATION of Special Libraries of the Philippines (ASLP) will hold its 47th anniversary and induction ceremony at NEDA Sa Makati Bldg., Amorsolo Street, Makati City tomorrow at 9:30 a.m. The inducting officer is Dr. Mario B. Lambarte, president of the Philippine Institute of Development Studies. The newly elected officers are: Valentina V. Tolentino, president; Milagros S. Ong, vice president; Ma. Cecilia B. Guevarra, secretary; Corazon G. Garcia, treasurer; Ceferina I. Andaya, auditor; Placida Socorro, PRO. The directors are as follows: Juliet Y. Enriquez, Teresita R. Casio, Jovenala S. Mangubat and Godelia E.S. Ricalde. Advisers are Helen C. de Castro, Erlinda SB. Mimay and Shirley L. Nava; Lilia F. Echiverri (ex-officio).

Say it with Mister Donut

EXPRESS your feelings to people you love through creatively designed donuts. Mister Donut, the leading doughnut store, recently launched the new Krispy Kreme Donuts, the first and only flower-shaped doughnut which are baked to be crispy and creamy. This new product is offered at a very affordable price of P15 and comes in four delicious variants: Choco Carousel, Peanut Pinwheel, Marble-Marvel and Cinnamon Sprinkle. Visit any Mister Donut store near you and check out this latest treat from Mister Donut.

Aircon innovation

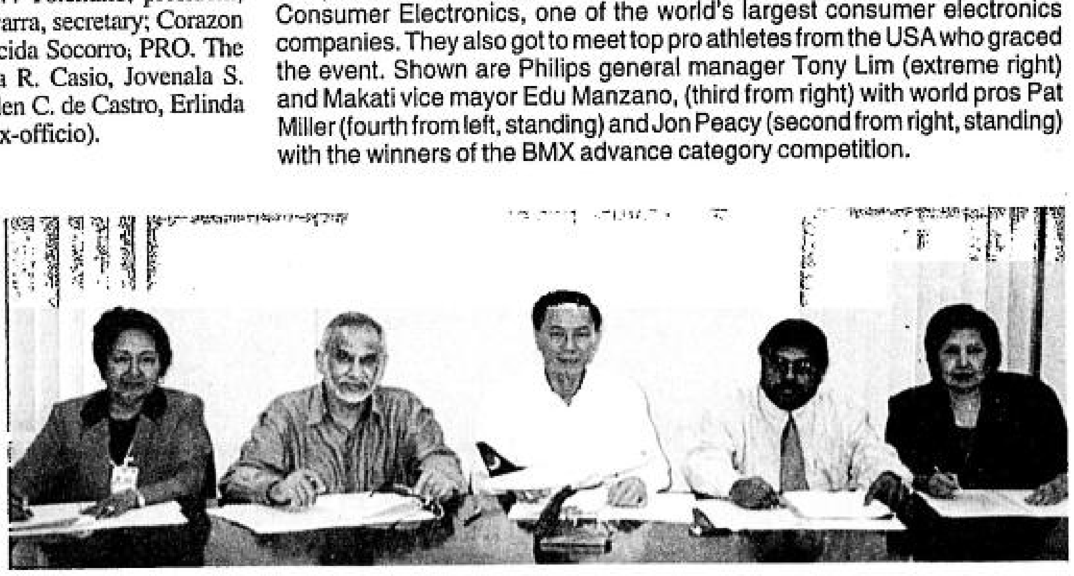
EXPERIENCE aircon innovation with Kolin, the first and only no-rust, no-drip air conditioner. Kolin gives you better efficiency, the widest, automatic air swing, plus a convenient dual remote control. Kolin air conditioner is the benchmark of aircon innovation.

COOL PRIZES FOR PINOY BMX RIDERS

Local BMX riders got a shot at the big time when they competed and won at Philips Rush X, the biggest extreme sports festival in the country by Philips Consumer Electronics, one of the world's largest consumer electronics companies. They also got to meet top pro athletes from the USA who graced the event. Shown are Philips general manager Tony Lim (extreme right) and Makati vice mayor Edu Manzano, (third from right) with world pros Pat Miller (fourth from left, standing) and Jon Peacy (second from right, standing) with the winners of the BMX advance category competition.

ISO 9002 CERTIFICATION FOR BBIC

Basic Box Industries Corporation, a manufacturer of corrugated boards and boxes, was recently certified to ISO 9002 Quality Systems Standards. General manager David Horlock of SGS Philippines Inc. (center), presents the ISO 9002 Quality Systems Standards certificate to BBIC's vice president for sales Jimmy Alcera (second from right) as (from left) Felyn Gorospe, Ben Cornejo and senior coordinator Emil Miranda look on. The company will ensure customer satisfaction by conforming to requirements, while reducing variation and waste in the products BBIC produces.

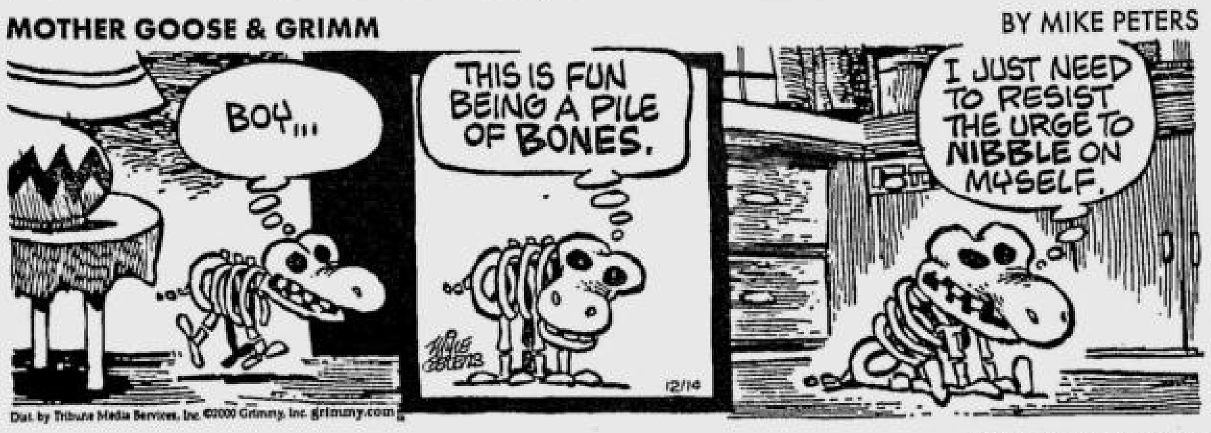


AIR PHIL APPOINTS GSA IN KUWAIT

Air Philipppines (AP) represented by its president and CEO/COO, Capt. Rogelio Narciso (center) signs contract with Caesars Travel Co. Inc. represented by Ghazi Al Abdul Razaak (second from left) and P.N.J. Kumar (second from right) director and general manager respectively, as their passenger general sales agent (GSA) in Kuwait, during a simple ceremony held at the Air Philippines Executive House at the Domestic Airport, Pasay City. With them are Air Phil executives Mila Limgenco, senior vice president for sales and marketing (left) and Erlinda Santiago, senior assistant vice president for marketing and sales.

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

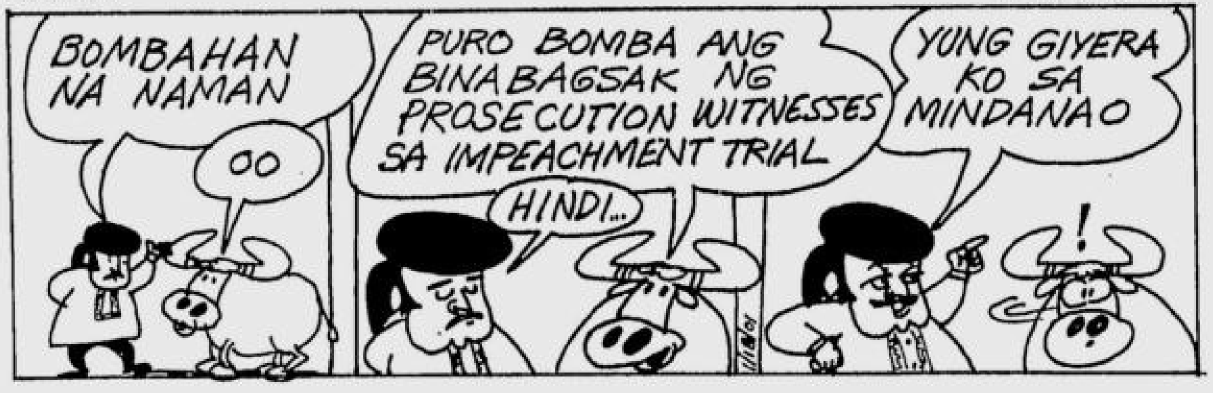
BY MIKE PETERS


BOY...
THIS IS FUN BEING A PILE OF BONES.
I JUST NEED TO RESIST THE URGE TO NIBBLE ON MYSELF.
MIKE PETERS
12/14

Dist. by Tribune Media Services, Inc. ©2000 Grimmy, Inc. grimmy.com

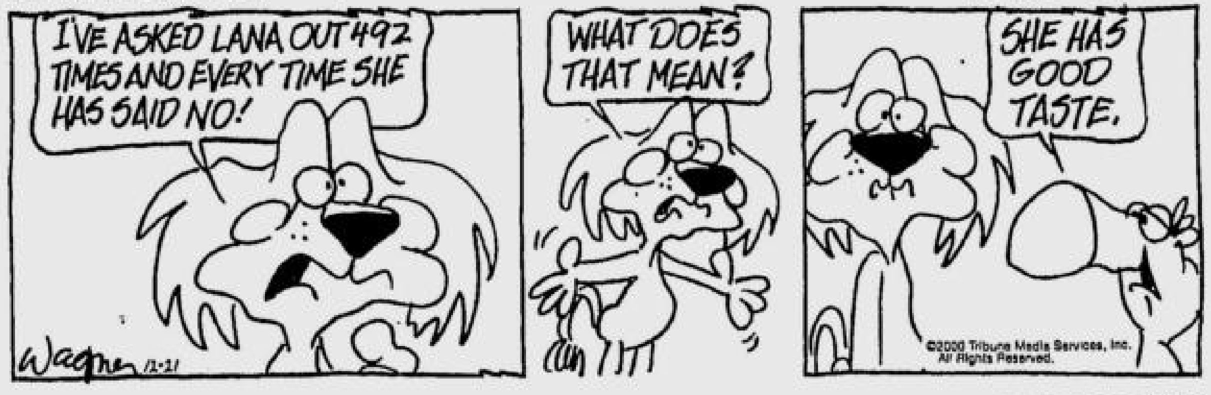
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


BOMBAHAN NA NAMAN
OO
PURO BOMBA ANG BINABAGSAK NG PROSECUTION WITNESSES SA IMPEACHMENT TRIAL
HINDI...
YUNG GIYERA KO SA MINDANAO
!
1/18/01

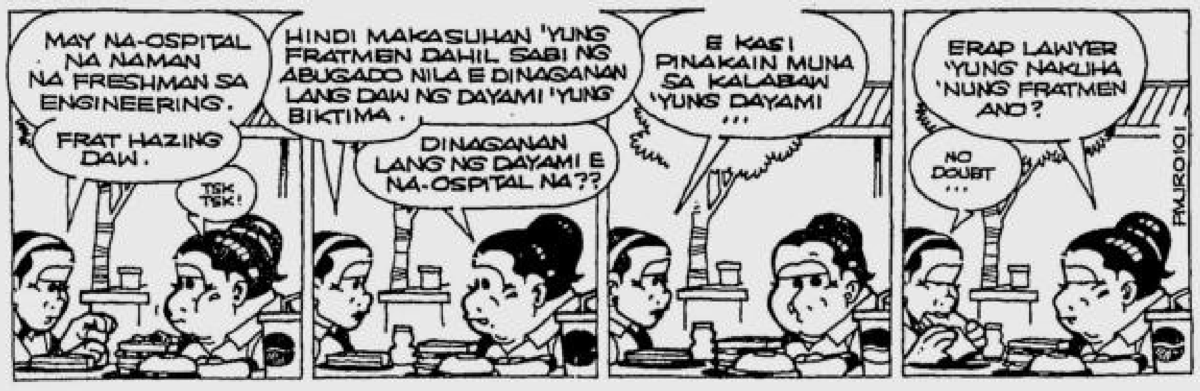
ANIMAL CRACKER

BY FRED WAGNER


I'VE ASKED LANA OUT 492 TIMES AND EVERY TIME SHE HAS SAID NO!
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
SHE HAS GOOD TASTE.
Wagner 12-21
©2000 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

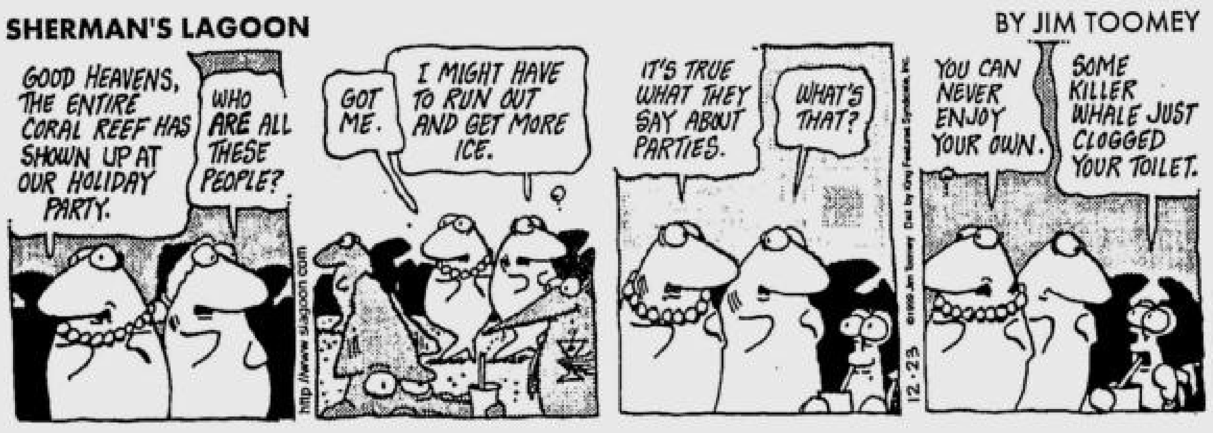
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


MAY NA-OSPITAL NA NAMAN NA FRESHMAN SA ENGINEERING.
FRAT HAZING DAW.
TSK TSK!
HINDI MAKASUHAN 'YUNG FRATMEN DAHIL SABI NG ABUGADO NILA E DINAGANAN LANG DAW NG DAYAMI 'YUNG BIKTIMA.
DINAGANAN LANG NG DAYAMI E NA-OSPITAL NA??
E KASI PINAKAIN MUNA SA KALABAW 'YUNG DAYAMI ...
ERAP LAWYER 'YUNG NAKUHA 'NUNG FRATMEN ANO?
NO DOUBT ...
PMJR0101

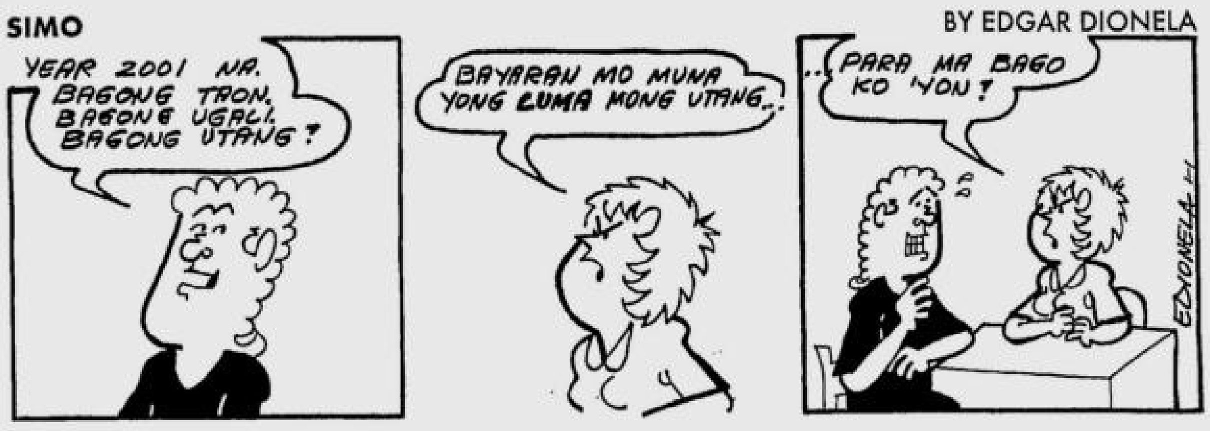
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


GOOD HEAVENS, THE ENTIRE CORAL REEF HAS SHOWN UP AT OUR HOLIDAY PARTY.
WHO ARE ALL THESE PEOPLE?
GOT ME.
I MIGHT HAVE TO RUN OUT AND GET MORE ICE.
IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT PARTIES.
WHAT'S THAT?
YOU CAN NEVER ENJOY YOUR OWN.
SOME KILLER WHALE JUST CLOGGED YOUR TOILET.
http://www.slagoon.com
12-23

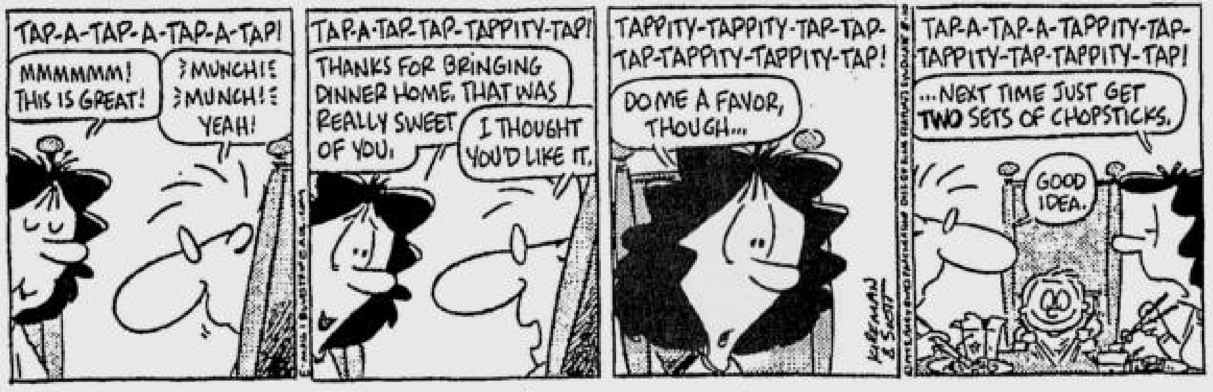
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


YEAR 2001 NA. BAGONG TAON. BAGONG UGALI. BAGONG UTANG?
BAYARAN MO MUNA YONG LUMA MONG UTANG...
...PARA MA BAGO KO 'YON!
EDIONELA

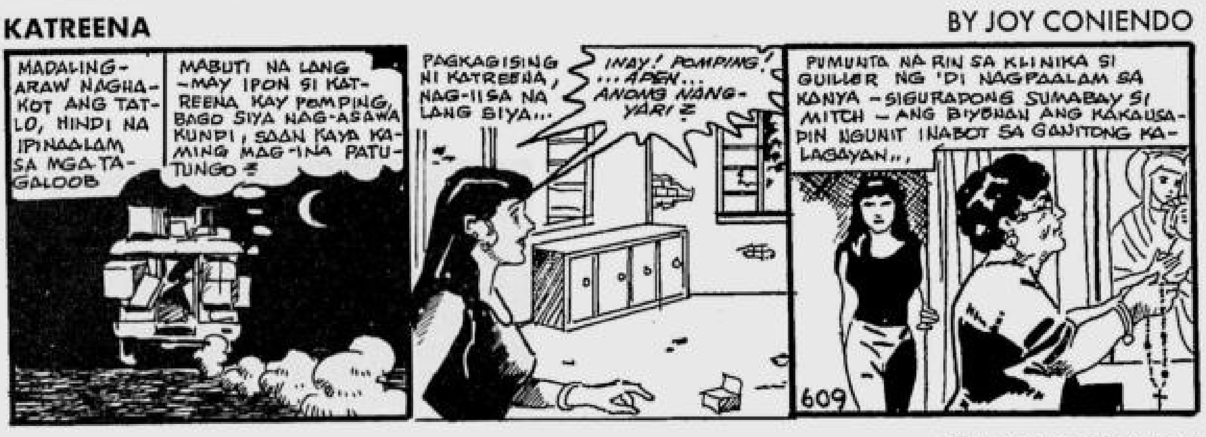
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


TAP-A-TAP-A-TAP-A-TAP!
MMMMMM! THIS IS GREAT!
MUNCH! MUNCH! YEAH!
TAP-A-TAP-TAP-TAPPITY-TAP!
THANKS FOR BRINGING DINNER HOME. THAT WAS REALLY SWEET OF YOU.
I THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE IT.
TAPPITY-TAPPITY-TAP-TAP-TAP-TAPPITY-TAPPITY-TAP!
DO ME A FAVOR, THOUGH...
TAP-A-TAP-A-TAPPITY-TAP-TAPPITY-TAP-TAPPITY-TAP!
...NEXT TIME JUST GET TWO SETS OF CHOPSTICKS.
GOOD IDEA.
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

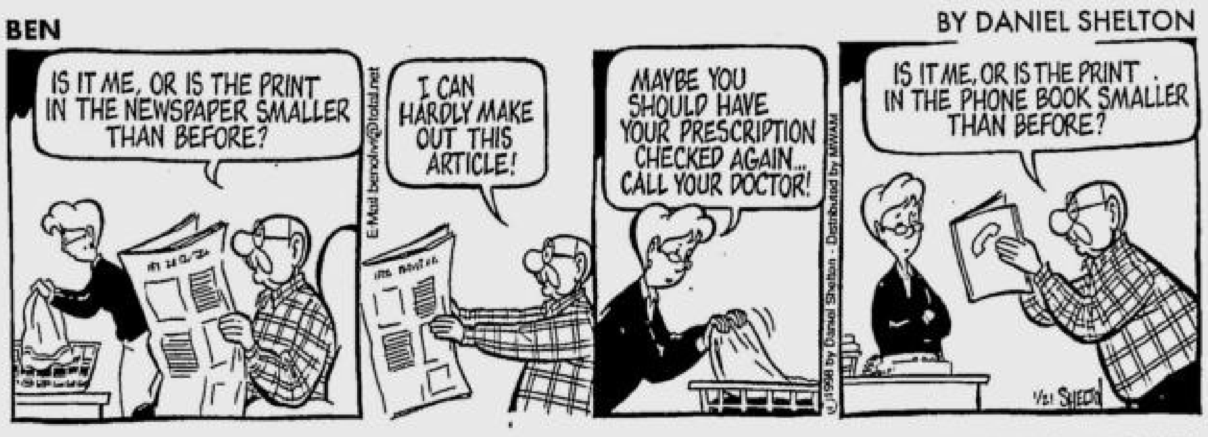
KATREENA

BY JOY CONIENDO


MADALING-ARAW NAGHA-KOT ANG TAT-LO, HINDI NA IPINAALAM SA MGA TA-GALOOB
MABUTI NA LANG -MAY IPON SI KAT-REENA KAY POMPING, BAGO SIYA NAG-ASAWA KUNDI, SAAN KAYA KA-MING MAG-INA PATU-TUNGO ?
PAGKAGISING NI KATREENA, NAG-IISA NA LANG SIYA...
INAY! POMPING! ...APEN... ANONG NANG-YARI ?
PUMUNTA NA RIN SA KLINIKA SI GUILLER NG 'DI NAGPAALAM SA KANYA -SIGURADONG SUMABAY SI MITCH -ANG BIYENAN ANG KAKAUSA-PIN NGUNIT INABOT SA GANITONG KA-LAGAYAN...
609

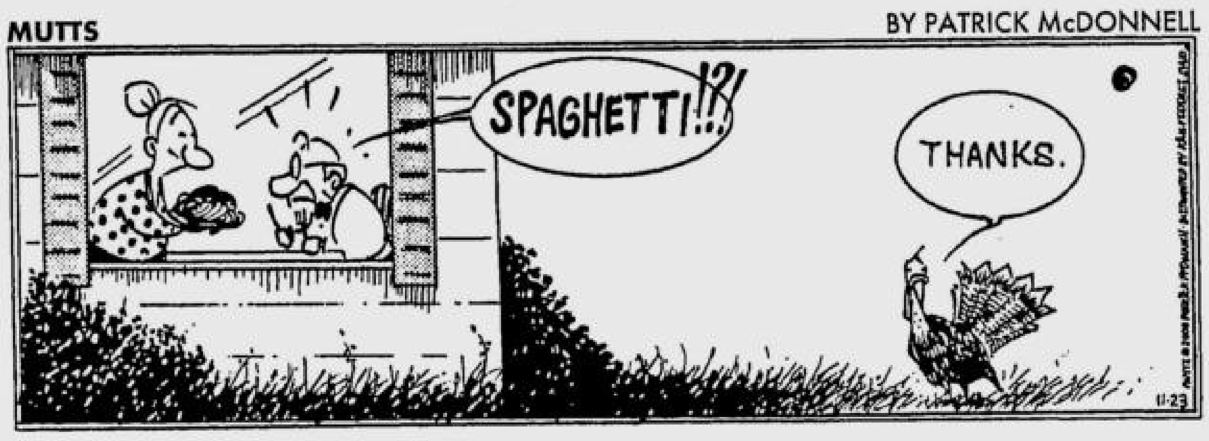
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


IS IT ME, OR IS THE PRINT IN THE NEWSPAPER SMALLER THAN BEFORE?
I CAN HARDLY MAKE OUT THIS ARTICLE!
E-Mail benohvi@total.net
MAYBE YOU SHOULD HAVE YOUR PRESCRIPTION CHECKED AGAIN... CALL YOUR DOCTOR!
©1998 by Daniel Shelton · Distributed by MWAM
IS IT ME, OR IS THE PRINT IN THE PHONE BOOK SMALLER THAN BEFORE?
1/21 SHELTON

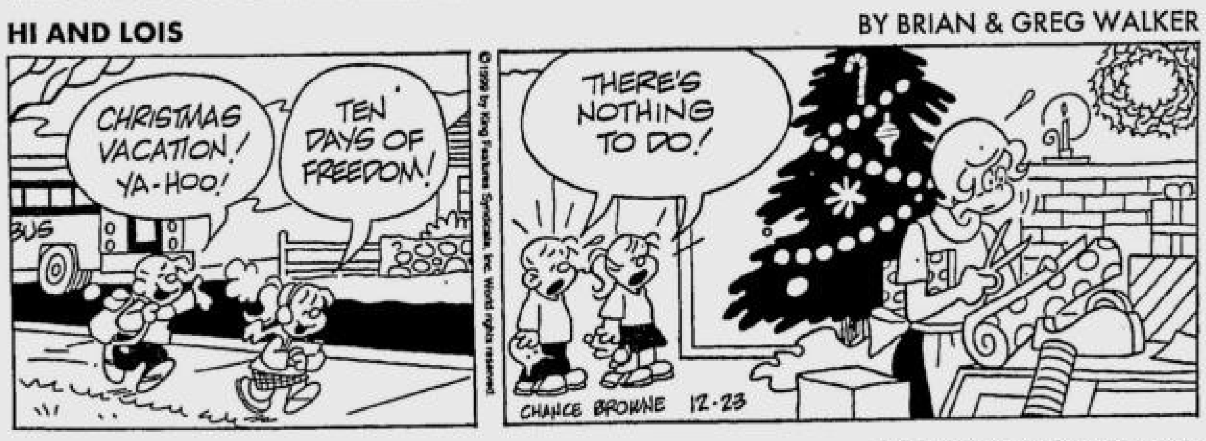
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


SPAGHETTI!?!
THANKS.
11-23

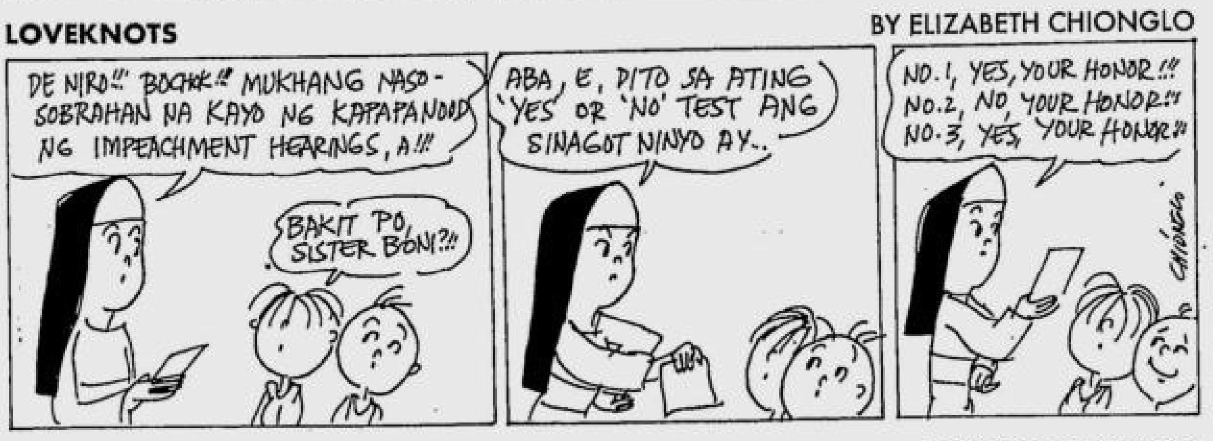
HI AND LOIS

BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER


CHRISTMAS VACATION! YA-HOO!
TEN DAYS OF FREEDOM!
BUS
©1998 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
THERE'S NOTHING TO DO!
CHANCE BROWNE 12-23

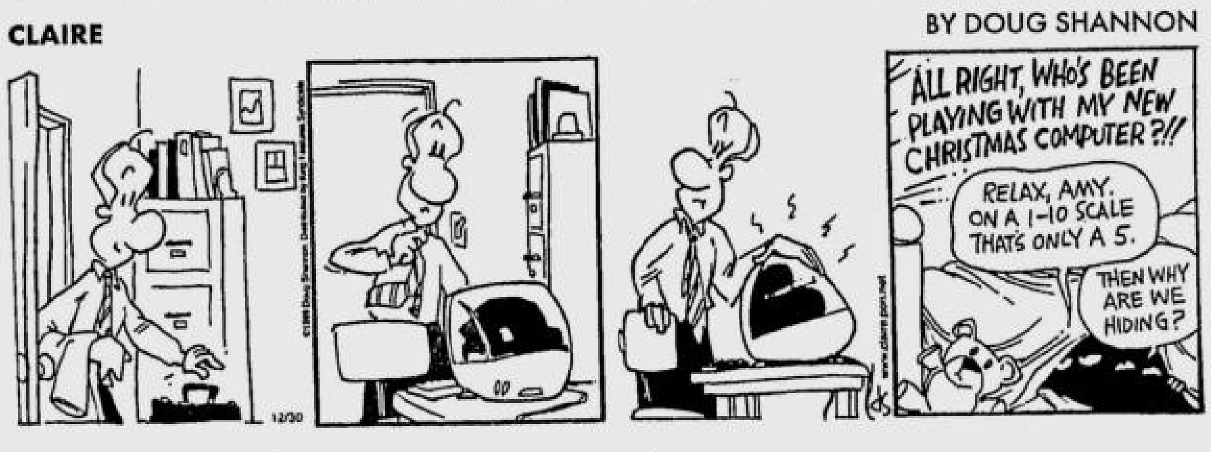
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


DE NIRO!! BOCHOK!! MUKHANG NASO-SOBRAHAN NA KAYO NG KAPAPANOOD NG IMPEACHMENT HEARINGS, A!!!
BAKIT PO, SISTER BONI?!!
ABA, E, DITO SA ATING 'YES' OR 'NO' TEST ANG SINAGOT NINYO AY..
NO. 1, YES, YOUR HONOR!!! NO. 2, NO, YOUR HONOR!!! NO. 3, YES, YOUR HONOR!!!
CHIONGLO

CLAIRE

BY DOUG SHANNON


12/30
ALL RIGHT, WHO'S BEEN PLAYING WITH MY NEW CHRISTMAS COMPUTER?!!
RELAX, AMY. ON A 1-10 SCALE THAT'S ONLY A 5.
THEN WHY ARE WE HIDING?

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Cary Grant, Kevin Costner, Mark Messier, Danny Kaye, Jane Horrocks, Christian Fittipaldi, Jonathan Davis

Happy Birthday: Prepare to be busy. Although you won't have much peace in your life this year, you will find yourself in some exciting situations. If you work hard and are well-prepared, you will achieve all you set out to accomplish. If you try to get by with a minimal amount of work, you will have long-lasting regrets. Gear up for a fast-paced, rewarding year. Your numbers: 19, 21, 25, 32, 36, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Your ability to make extra money will help you pay those unexpected bills. Changes in your position may lead you down new avenues that will be more profitable than working for someone else.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will find it difficult to control your emotions. Don't put limitations on yourself. Opportunities will develop through colleagues.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You will have the discipline to finish your projects. Take a look at all your options. You may find yourself in a position to move to an area that looks more promising.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Opportunities to make moves or to expand your living quarters will be beneficial. You will have to be careful how you handle your emotional partner, who may not like the changes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Problems at work may affect your position. Try to keep a low profile and don't get involved in other people's affairs. You may find your own relationship stifling.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will be able to inspire confidence in others. You can make a real difference when dealing with children. Be open and receptive to ideas presented to you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will tend to be extravagant. Problems with ears, nose and throat may limit your activities. Stay away from joint financial ventures or dubious fast-cash schemes.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can expect your mate to be frazzled if you start to question his or her activities or whereabouts. You may find yourself alone if you don't give the benefit of the doubt.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Problems with children may leave you bewildered. Don't be tempted by risky ventures or gambling. Stomach problems will occur if you aren't careful about what you consume.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Do something about your appearance. A new hairstyle or toning up your body will make a vast difference to your self-esteem.

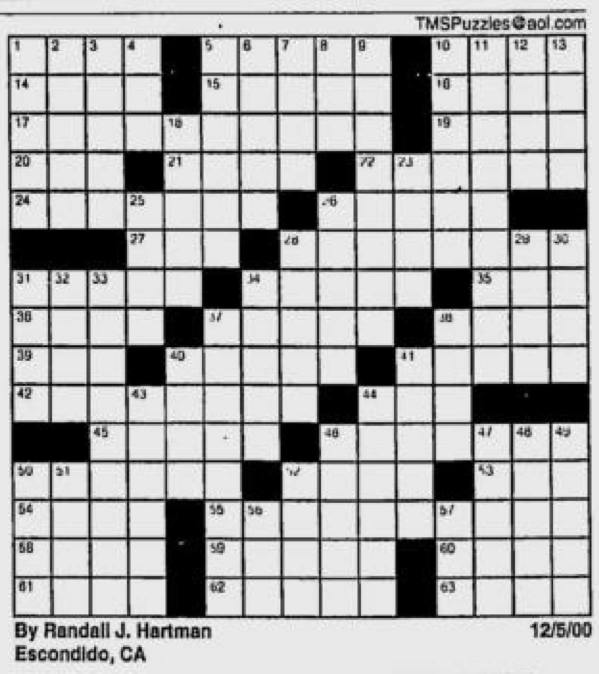
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Get everyone you live with involved in home-improvement projects. You will all feel much better about your environment. Invite friends in to enjoy your new surroundings.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Get out and mingle with new people. Romantic connections can be made. Don't hesitate; act on your gut feelings.

Birthday Baby: You see everything. You have an innate ability to decipher what others cannot even imagine. You are bold, bright and ready to take on the world. Your competitive nature will lead you to the winner's circle.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Randall J. Hartman
Escondido, CA

12/5/00

ACROSS
1 Wound mark
5 Supplications
10 Cornell or Pound
14 Subject matter?
15 Dirt
16 Bankruptcy
17 Poe poem
19 Primo condition
20 Overweight
21 Dies __
22 Musical transition
24 Twist off
26 Augusta's state
27 Annex
28 Orchestral composition
31 Foundation
34 Hold contents
35 Albee play, "The __ Story"
36 Islands off Galway
37 Outer robes
38 Saxophonist Stan
39 Stimpy's pal
40 Gainer and swan
41 Gaggle group
42 Harried
44 Indigo or woad
45 Pass along
46 La Scala voice
50 Actor Omar
52 "__ Well That Ends Well"
53 School of whales
54 Musical appendix
55 Clan plan
58 Consumer
59 "Fear of Flying" author Jong
60 __ it the truth?
61 Exploit
62 Passover celebration
63 GM make

DOWN
1 Military mess
2 Talk-show host O'Brien
3 Brother's mother's sisters
4 Genetic letters
5 Took a look
6 H. Hamlin TV series
7 Perry's creator
8 Dined
9 Contrivances
10 Weasel's kin
11 Ijsselmeer's site
12 Leader leader?
13 Pot entrance fee
18 Flycatchers and goatsuckers
23 Puerto __
25 First murderer
26 Forenoons
28 Crowed?
29 Kids
30 Seep
31 Don Rickles remark
32 Length x width
33 "Gidget" star
34 Flock of quail
37 Serengeti giants?
38 Will of "The Waltons"
40 Sub shop
41 Word with moth or cab
43 Actor Depardieu
44 Type of diplomacy?
46 Opposite shot to a hook
47 "__ Love"
48 An infinity
49 "Golden Boy" playwright
50 Gust of wind
51 Fireman's carry
52 In the thick of
56 Exist
57 Chinese way

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

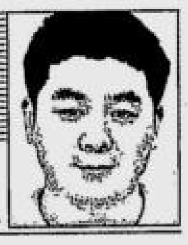
M	A	S	H	■	D	I	C	E	S	■	A	M	E	N
O	T	T	O	■	E	V	E	R	T	■	R	A	V	E
A	S	I	S	■	S	A	L	S	A	■	D	I	E	T
T	E	N	P	O	I	N	T	T	Y	P	E	■	■	■
S	A	T	I	N	G	■	■	■	■	O	N	T	O	P
■	■	■	T	E	N	C	E	N	T	S	T	O	R	E
T	A	T	A	R	■	A	R	O	S	E	■	M	A	E
A	R	A	I	■	A	B	A	T	E	■	M	E	L	T
S	D	I	■	C	O	A	T	I	■	G	U	I	S	E
T	E	N	G	A	L	L	O	N	H	A	T	■	■	■
E	N	T	E	R	■	■	■	■	O	M	E	R	T	A
■	■	■	T	E	N	P	E	N	N	Y	N	A	I	L
T	I	T	O	■	O	S	T	E	O	■	E	D	N	A
A	L	O	U	■	B	A	T	O	R	■	S	I	A	M
B	L	O	T	■	S	T	A	N	S	■	S	O	S	O

(C)2000 Tribune Media Services, Inc
All rights reserved

12/6/00

Lessons in preservation of food and life

THE MAD TEA PARTY



Clinton Palanca

ON MY table now there sits a loaf of bread. Its colors range from the gentle brown of the crust to vivid green, from magenta to a pale amethyst. This is not because it is a specialty vegetable bread, but because it has been sitting, unrefrigerated, in its plastic wrapper for almost a week now. I have been debating what to do with it: to throw it out, by simply chucking the entire mass of it into the wastebasket, seems a waste, an offense to social responsibility. But to attempt to gouge out a bas-relief of mold from its surface in order to reach a hopefully clean, unspeckled heart would involve opening the ghastly thing. So it continues to sit, as an *objet d'art*, on my dining table.

I have been bedridden for the past few days, and my immobility has given me plenty of time to sit and brood on the finitude of love, the intemperateness of destiny and the process of fermentation. Yes, fermentation. Not just because I have been unwilling witness to the process occurring before me, but also by direct experiential phenomenology. After three days propped up in bed, I now know how a gherkin must feel, slowly pickling in a jar, helpless in immobility, slowly letting the cancer of salt and vinegar infiltrate one's pores. I understand the meaning of life for an anchovy. I am the kin of a kipper.

Last night, since I could not go out shopping for my usual fresh produce, not even my beloved instant noodles, I concocted a meal almost entirely from the store cupboard. I don't usually have that many tinned goods, since it's embarrassing for a chef to be seen with tins. But I do have lot of bottled produce, and I opened jar after jar, hearing the satisfying *shwuock* of the vacuum seal being broken. I cooked a pot of rice and ate it with Korean pickled cabbage, or *kimchi*, salted anchovies, fermented bean curd with chili and a jar of *burong dalag*. It was unexpectedly satisfying: the shocking saltiness of the fish, the unctuousness of the bean curd, which melts in one's mouth, the crunch of the red-flecked cabbages, and then all of it rounded off by the pungency of the *buro*. I finished the meal with a wedge of homemade shortbread.

Preservation

In the days before refrigeration, fresh produce had to be preserved in other manners, especially in temperate cultures, where they had to store up food over the winter. The other main reason that food needed to be preserved was to last throughout the course of a journey, especially one taken at sea. Whatever the reason, all methods of preservation, though, stem from the need to extend the usable life of a particular foodstuff. These days, we simply stuff everything into the refrigerator or the freezer, in the hope or belief that the food, when defrosted in the fullness of time (for some households, this can be a matter of years), will be more or less the same as when we put it in. For almost everything except vegetables, this is the case; it's true that refrigeration is indeed the most efficient means of preservation known to us today.

But more archaic methods of preservation had interesting side effects. For instance, the salty pungency of ham was the result of a way of keeping a leg of pork usable for a long period of time. Jams and jellies were means of preserving fruit. Dried porcini or shrimp (what we call *hebi*) are more flavorful than the fresh counterpart. Even the biscuit evolved as an alternative to bread in order to survive the duration of a ship's journey. If the loaf of bread currently on my dining table had been a biscuit, it would still be perfectly edible at this point, although I might eventually develop scurvy.

Essentially, preservation entails the inhibition of bacteria from growing; these need certain conditions to multiply. These are the methods of attack: you can remove the moisture (drying), remove the air (vacuum sealing), kill them all and then quickly shut the door so that no new ones get in (bottling and canning), and so on. One interesting method is to inundate them with so much sugar (which they generally love) that they become bewildered and don't know what to do, which is what happens to me when I enter Dean and Deluca in New York, so that I just stand still with my mouth slightly open. (I've personally seen the bacteria do this as well.)

> 'I have two projects pending: an experiment with crumpets on the griddle, and some port that I'm trying to turn into vinegar'

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

Fermentation

Which brings us to fermentation. It's not strictly a method of preservation, since the bacteria have evidently been allowed to do their work; but neither have they been allowed to run free. Fermentation is a form of controlled decay in which the food is allowed to go bad very, very slowly, and in a certain manner, so that it keeps longer and, in many cases, becomes more delicious. I detest the blandness of tofu with a passion, but I love those fermented bean curd cubes in a bottle; they have the gooey butteriness of cream cheese, and are spiked with hot pepper flakes.

Milk is just milk, but allowed to spoil, it can become velvety smooth yogurt. Have you ever tried full-fat homemade yogurt with lavender honey drizzled over it? The curd, on the other hand, when allowed to decay turns into cheese; for soft cheeses, mold is painted on the upper and lower surfaces and gradually works its magic, turning the interior into goo that runs when you slice into a wheel of Brie or dig into an Epoisse. If you've ever eaten a properly aged steak, the tenderness and strong, meaty flavor come from being hung so that the enzymes begin to do their work on the meat. And let us not forget that it is fermentation that turns honey into mead, grain into beer, grape juice into wine, and puts the bubbles into champagne.

You must know how to do it, though. Once, while I was still living with my parents, I tried to make ginger beer, by putting a gingery, yeast-infused solution into bottles and tying the corks on with twine. I stored them in the kitchen cupboard, which was a "cool, dark place" as specified. One night, the bottles exploded like sporadic gunshots. We all clambered downstairs armed with bolsters, penknives and letter-openers, and found the kitchen awash in a brown, muddy liquid and sprinkled with shattered glass. Scientific to the last, I prostrated myself to the floor and lapped up some of the stuff: it tasted nothing like ginger beer.

Another of my more insane experiments was with fermented bread. Sourdough bread is produced from a starter (either a natural one or a simple "poolish") that ferments anywhere from overnight to a week. I recently produced a single, unforgettable loaf of completely natural bread by boiling a potato and nursing the yeasts from the potato skin to ferment and leaven a starter (over the course of four days); I then added flour and allowed that to ferment again overnight. The dough that resulted smelled very strong indeed, rather like unwashed feet, but then I baked it in a highly humidified oven (I used a cosmetic spritzer from The Body Shop) and it turned into an ambrosial smell. When it emerged, the bread was the most wonderful I have ever eaten, better than anything the Poilane brothers come up with in Paris. I ate half a loaf that night, with fresh Isigny butter and nothing else. But my god, I'm never going to try doing that again, not even for love.

So as outside the people begin to foment, up here, in my lair, I am beginning to ferment. I have two projects pending: an experiment with crumpets on the griddle, and some port that I'm trying to turn into vinegar. In the meantime, the loaf of bread seems to have moved several inches closer to me; it is definitely not where I left it last. My dog keeps barking at it. Mark my words, sinister things seem to be afoot. If this column does not resume next week, you will know what has happened to me.

Sumptuous Chinese New Year treats

DINING OUT

CELEBRATE Yee Sang Festival at the China Sea Restaurant of the Westin Philippine Plaza until Jan. 24 as the Chinese communities in Southeast Asia do. China Sea Restaurant offers set menus and a la carte menus. Plus dine in China Sea and receive the traditional *ang pao*, a red packet that signifies good luck and good fortune. Call 551-5555 local 1528.

NEW WORLD RENAISSANCE. From Jan.22-26, mouthwatering selections prepared by Chinese Executive Chef Y. S. Lee will be available for lunch and dinner at the hotel's premiere Cantonese restaurant, Emperor Court. Special set menu includes Peking Duck, Suckling Pig and delectable dimsum. Call 811-6888 local 3338.

EDSA SHANGRI-LA. Summer Palace has lined up exciting activities to usher in the Year of the Snake. Savor a Chinese New Year feast with delicacies,that are both colorful and delicious.

This season, gift your loved ones with traditional *ninko* (Chinese sweet cake or *tikoy*) available in two sizes until Jan. 26. Radish cakes are also available.

For the Chinese New Year celebration, treat your family to genuine Yee Sang, available in prawn salmon or abalone until Feb. 7.

Other Chinese New Year specialties and set menus are available from Jan. 23 to Feb. 7. Call 633-8888.

HOLIDAY INN. Holiday Inn Manila treats seafood lovers to a great seafood dinner buffet dubbed "Sinbad on the Voyage of the Seven Seas" at the Café Coquilla.

For starters, feast on Cheviche Scallops with Cilantro; Sushi and Sashimi; Steamed Shoe Lobster and Shrimp with Cocktail Sauce; Pasta Salad with Seafood; Fresh Australian Oysters and Seafood Cocktail.

Your choice of steaming hot soups are available like the Seafood Chowder and Cream of Eggplant with Smoked Fish, while fresh and delectable Salmon Coulibiac with Lemon Caper Sauce is available at the carving station.

Have a delightful fill of tempting Mussels in Chardonnay Sauce, Fish Shawarma with Garlic Mayonnaise and Stir-fried Egg Noodles with Scallops. Plus a wide selection of Oysters, Blue Lip Mussels, Prawns and Neck Clams. Call 526-1212 local 2318.

MANILA GALLERIA. It's definitely a Chinese experience with appetizing Chinese cuisine at Raphael Café-Restaurant. From Jan. 22 to Feb. 3, savor the sumptuous collection of exquisitely prepared dishes at Raphael's lunch and dinner buffet. Call 633-7111 local 7463 or 7313.

OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE. Just as Ayers Rock is worth the trip to Australia, the Ayer's Strip is worth a visit to Outback Steakhouse.

WELCOME the Year of the Snake at the New World Renaissance Hotel .

Prepared in the traditional Outback way of locking in the steak's juices so that the flavors explode with every bite, the Ayer's Strip is served with the restaurant's creamy Walkabout Soup O' the Day and Bushman Bread. It is just as delightful with the Jacket Potato, Aussie Chips, Fresh Steamed Veggies or Rice Pilaf.

Outback Steakhouse highly recommends a glass of the medium bodied Hardy's Nottage Hid Cabernet Shiraz, whose rich, berry fruit flavor with subtle spicy oak undertone complements the Ayer's Strip. Outback Steakhouse has branches at Glorietta IV, Makati City and Libis, QC. Opening soon is Outback Steakhouse Alabang Town Center.

PAN PACIFIC. Treat yourself to a fabulous Chinese New Year at the Pan Pacific Manila until Jan. 31 and enjoy their sumptuous meals. This package is inclusive of full buffet breakfast, eat-all-you-can dimsum at the Lobby Lounge, plus a 10-percent discount in the Chinese Restaurants and fortune-telling services at the Adriatico Square. Call 536-0788.

Going Underground for a genuine English pub experience

(From page B10)

the West back in the 19th century. A pub (short for public house) is "where people meet and enjoy food and drinks, as well as play games and other pastimes such as darts and cards," Griffiths explains. Whereas "a bar is physical drinking place, a pub is a culture," he adds.

The Tube

Using the Tube, or London's underground transport system, as its principal theme, London Underground was designed by an in-house team led by Griffiths. The pub is an elongated space reminiscent of a railroad car. On one side is a long bar that can sit 30 people at one time with additional tables and four-pronged barstools by the glass wall opposite it.

The atmosphere is relaxed and not cramped, what with a 60-person seating capacity to a maximum of only a hundred. Unlike in a bar, you don't have to struggle for elbow room—yet you still get to rub elbows with people you'd want to get cozy with. It is propitious for small gatherings like mini concerts and poetry readings: "You can even bring your own CDs and we can play them for you," declares bar manager Gio Gillego. And, like the Tube, the pub has a long row of overhead ad boxes that are for lease on a quarterly basis.

Food and brews

London Underground promises a genuine English pub experience. Food is supposedly authentic English, most interesting of which are the pickled eggs and onions. English chips, or french fries to you, are deep-fried in their jackets (skin), served on brown paper then "drenched in malt vinegar, like the English do," as suggested by staffer Gener.

And what's an English pub without English beer? London Underground has a long list of English brews—draught, lager, ale or what have you. To female patrons, Gillego suggests White Diamond, a lager that tastes like apple juice—but with a kick, nonetheless, owing to its 8.4 percent alcohol content. For those who hanker for something harder, London Underground also carries the usual whiskies, vodkas and gins. Or, you can always ask the bartender to mix a cocktail of your fancy.

Gillego admits the local beers are still more popular, but he is quick to add that the English brands are competing. London Underground, however, doesn't have Happy Hours, "since after that, the clients leave," Gillego says. To compensate for it, the pub holds promos, like offering two of their English beers, Caffreys and Tennents, at P100 a pop.

Pub culture

What more, you can put your liver to the test by guzzling 10 cans (about 5 liters) of English beers in two hours, and you don't pay a cent, plus you're awarded an exclusive London Underground shirt. Gillego says only three clients have so far lived up to the challenge—two expats and, drum roll please, a Filipino.

When a patron gets carried away and gulps more than his system can hold, but can't keep his dignity intact, "well, we clean him up," Gillego says with a grin. "That's part of the business... And he's welcome to return."

"So far we have been able to attract regular clients from different sectors and walks of life," Griffiths says. "Our clientele are mostly expats, but Makati yuppies have discovered our pub and they have also become regulars," Gillego adds. "Bearing in mind that we have not yet advertised the pub in the general market place, we are happy with the response," Griffiths enthuses.

The London Underground Pub in Makati is the flagship branch, and is operated by Underground Holdings Inc. Griffiths says it was conceived with franchising and licensing as the ultimate goal. "Two more pubs will be opened within Southeast Asia in 2001 as part of our initial expansion drive, with more exciting concept developments in F&B and retail merchandising."

Their trade secret? "High quality service in a friendly comfort zone is the key. If you like pubs, the pub atmosphere and the pub culture, you'll find the difference at The London Underground Pub," Griffiths swears.

So where will you be Saturday night?

Ibiza ambience, sound invade Makati nightlife

THE DANCE club Wherelse? at the Inter-Con Hotel is the place this Friday, Jan. 19 as the famous Ibiza sunset bar, Café Mambo, with its resident DJ Rob Tissera, stops by Manila to give clubbers a true taste of the Ibiza sound.

"In this time of uncertainty and crisis, we decided to do something different and produce an event with a more relaxing twist to it," Domini Primero of the Big Fish Crew explained. "The Café Mambo name is synonymous with all that is good about Ibiza, so we'd like to invite everybody out there to come out and party with us!"

A popular hangout for celebrity DJs and promoters, Café Mambo is one of the essential stops on the Ibiza guide. With famous club brands like Cream, Renaissance and Ministry of Sound holding events there, the high quality of their sound will be guaranteed. Headlined by UK DJ Rob Tissera, a diverse artist-producer (also known as Quake) who will play his variety of energetic house, and by our very own DJ Papi (a.k.a Manolet Santos) and TC of Traxx, Café Mambo must not be missed.

On Jan. 19, Where Else? will be dressed up like Café Mambo and doors will open at 9 p.m. Entrance is P300 without flyers, and P50 off with flyers. Café Mambo VIP rooms will also be available for P10,000 (all consumable).

Larry serves up music

ROCK 'n' roll, the Beatles, Reggae or pop Top 40? Whatever your pleasure, your kind of music is featured at Larry's Bar.

Now located on top of the Café Adriatico-1900 Building in Malate, Larry's Bar overlooks the restaurant-encircled Plaza de la Virgen de los Remedios, popularly known as the Remedios Circle.

On Mondays, Larry's Bar soloist Mark Velasco accompanies himself on his acoustic guitar as he sings revival and contemporary favorites. Tuesdays are reggae nights with a live band dishing out Bob Marley and root reggae hits from the Caribbean. Beatlemania takes over on Wednesdays with the well-known Dyna Souls, regarded as the best Pinoy Beatles group in town.

Roll over Beethoven, it's Thursday with the H-Five reelin' and rockin' till break of dawn. On Fridays and Saturdays, Larry's Bar mainstay Romy Jorolan and resident band Acoustic Jive sing lively R&B.

Guests who come before the show can enjoy the current promo, "All You Can Beer, All You Can Chow" for only P275+, 5-9 p.m. Call 524-3787.

IN GOOD TASTE

Doreen G. Fernandez

Ms Fernandez is on leave.

Color of purple in cake

ASK NORA

Nora Daza

LOIDA Salitan and Vic and Beth Magpantay asked for an *ube* cake recipe.

Here is one I like. I would suggest that those who want to bake cakes successfully equip themselves with a reliable oven and basic equipment. When I started baking, I had a set of four bowls of different sizes. The largest one was perfect for the last stage of chiffon cake preparation. This is when the egg whites have been beaten to their maximum volume and the egg yolk mixture is incorporated into the egg whites.

Just by blending the batter carefully, you could see the volume of the batter increase. With the egg whites and yolk mixture folded in, the whole volume is increased. The egg whites, which had incorporated air to leaven or raise the cake, takes in the egg yolk mixture with the flavors and fat, and is ready to be baked. The baking powder and egg whites, the beaten yolks, which had incorporated the air cells, would then rise while keeping the air cells trapped and giving a light, tasty cake!

One equipment essential for this type of cake is a 10-inch tube pan. I have searched for this and found them at the Cake Exchange Store at the 2/F SM Megamall A, near the viewing section of the ice skating rink. Another Cake Exchange Store is at the ground floor of Rockwell Center's Power Plant Mall, I am told. I have not been in this one myself.

The tube pan is a large cake pan, with the bottom part removable and with a tube in the center. This allows the heat to penetrate the cake batter thus cooking the flour and egg mixture thoroughly.

Ube Cake

2¼ c cake flour
1 c sugar
3 tsp baking powder
1 tsp salt
½ c cooking oil
5-6 egg yolks
3/4 c water
1 drop red food coloring
1 drop blue food coloring
3 tbsp *ube* powder
1 c egg whites
½ tsp cream of tartar
½ c sugar

Prepare *ube* and water mixture. If your *ube* powder dissolves in water, just prepare this for the cake. If the *ube* powder does not dissolve, heat the water and add the *ube* powder. Cool the *ube* powder mixture before using.

Sift flour, baking powder and salt into a mixing bowl. Make a well at the center of the flour mixture and then add in this order: cooking oil, egg yolks, the *ube* water and the red and blue food coloring. This should give you a violet batter.

With a wire whip, blend just to have a smooth mixture. Do not overbeat. Set aside.

In a large, clean bowl (no fat whatsoever), beat the 1 c egg whites. This should be at room temperature so that it can be beaten up to maximum volume. Add the cream of tartar for this stabilizes the egg whites. As the bubbles of the egg whites get beaten to the stage that the bubbles are similar in size, gradually add the ½ c sugar. Beat the egg whites until they are stiff but not dry. That is, the egg whites do not show bits of white and the mixture is really overbeaten and can no longer keep in the air cells. Practice makes perfect. But then, with the cream of tartar and the sugar, there is not much danger in overbeating if one watches carefully.

Get the yolk-*ube*-water mixture and pour this into the beaten egg whites. Use a rubber spatula to mix. When you are beginning to do this, help from another person to pour the egg yolk mixture into the egg white mixture in a stream will be most helpful.

The trick is to add the egg yolk mixture with a cut-and-fold motion so that the yolk mixture gets blended into the egg whites while not overbeating so that the air cells stay in.

Use a wide rubber scrapper to scrape the bottom of the bowl and, with a lifting motion, blend the bottom part with the top. Use this kind of motion to blend the two mixtures. Flour has gluten that develops as it is handled. For cakes, we want to keep this to a level that will hold the ingredients within the cake and yet not have a tough crust.

Once you have a homogeneous mixture, pour the batter into your clean tube pan. You can push the batter from the center to the sides if you care to. This is to prevent your cake from having a top that is high in the middle. One can do this for all cakes. That is, push the batter to the sides. Cakes have a tendency to rise at the middle and this is what gives you a cake that is thinner on the sides and thicker at the middle.

Bake in the 10-inch tube pan at a 325° oven for 55 minutes, then raise the temperature to 350° and bake for 10 minutes more. This makes for 65 minutes all in all. If you study this carefully, the idea is to bake the cake slowly till the batter is thoroughly cooked and then, the last 10 minutes to finally bake through all batter.

From the oven, turn the tube pan upside down and allow the cake to cool.

Frosting:
¾ c sugar
¾ c evaporated milk
1 c butter
½-¾ c *ube* jam

The idea for this icing is to blend the sugar into the milk and incorporate it into the butter. If you start with sugar as is, it will take a longer time beating the butter to have the sugar crystals dissolve as you cream the butter. So, I dissolve the sugar in the milk and add that to the creamed butter. The end product is the same.

So, cream the butter (1 c is equivalent to 8 oz of butter or the large pack of butter sold in supermarkets in Manila), add the sugar and alternately add in the milk.

Have the butter slighty cool, if possible. Once you have a smooth cream, beat *ube* jam and add enough to flavor the icing. Add red and blue food coloring to achieve the violet color that is associated with *ube*.

You may cut the cake across and cover one layer with your *ube* icing and top with the other cake and frost the whole cake.

You may want to add sweetened *macapuno* strings to the icing and filling as décor. Imagine the white *macapuno* over the *ube* cake and icing.

In our Paris restaurant, we used to serve *ube* pie and most foreigners wondered about that strange color. I imagine that some producers of *ube* powder colored their products. I used our *ube*, which is not all that violet, but I would explain to the French and other foreigners who were being introduced to our cuisine and desserts. *Ube* is so uniquely and proudly Filipino. Remember that we could have *ube* jam whenever we went to Baguio from the early 1900.

E-mail Nora at ngdev@info.com.ph or write her at PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

Nutritious and delicious delight for kids

NESTLÉ is a big fan of the mother-kid tandem that is why, for many years now, it has been hard at work thinking of creative ways to make kids happier with its products and at the same time making mommies nod in happy approval. Its catalog of kiddy products reads like a child's grocery wish list: ice cream, fruity frozen bars, delightful desserts, yummy milk and so on. And parents trust Nestlé because the brand is synonymous to excellent quality.

Several years back, Nestlé decided to put live pro-life bacteria in manufactured food because it knew that friendly intestinal microorganisms had a lot to do with good health. Nestlé yogurt products have millions of live "friendlies" in every cup. And with the entry of the special Nestlé Kiddy Yogurt format, mothers will have no trouble making their children gulp down this very good stuff.

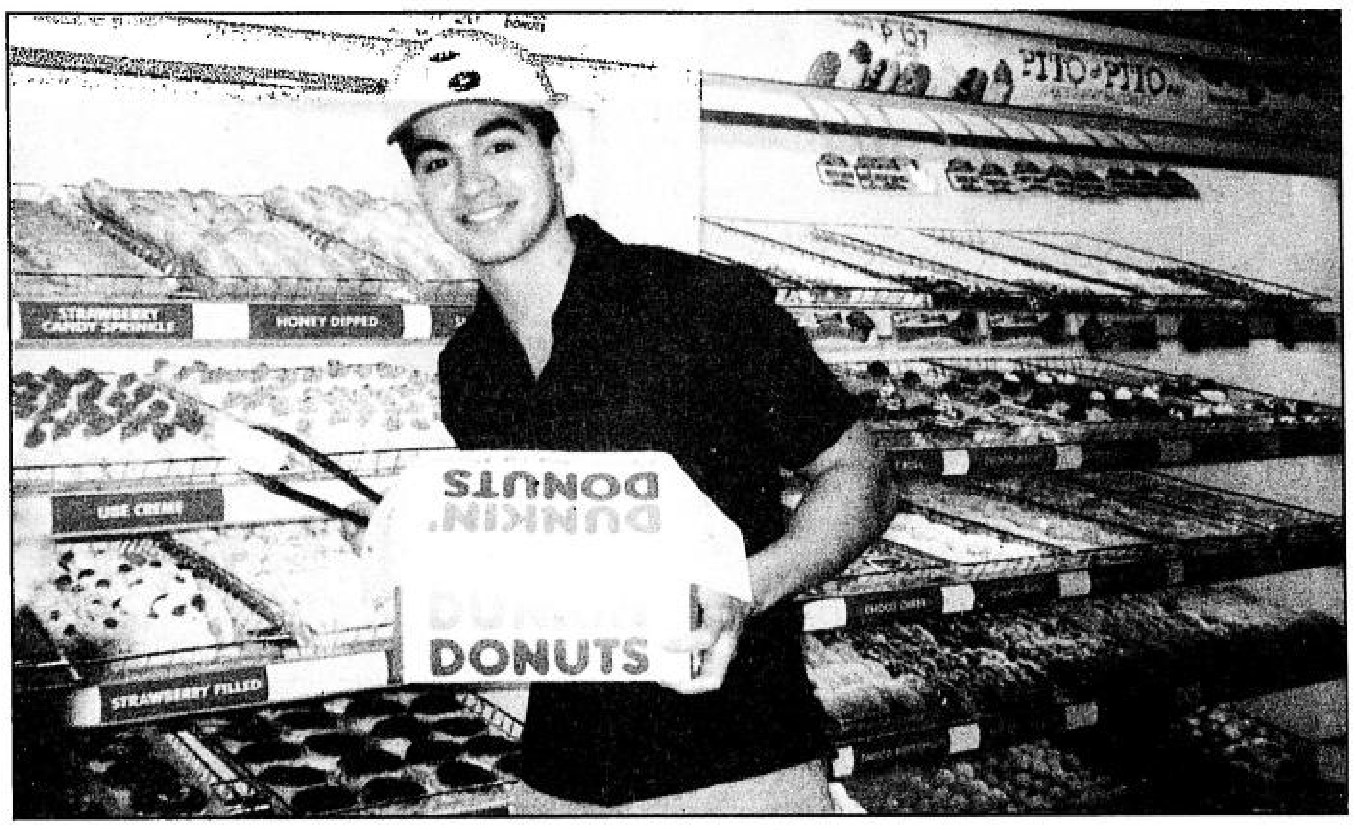
Kids will have fun the healthy way with new Nestlé Yogurt Fun Mix and Nestlé Yogurt Squeeze. These two very yummy yogurt innovations are loaded with live good bacteria that fight disease, aid digestion and prevent tummy ache. They are crammed with vitamins and minerals, high-quality protein and more calcium than meat, fish and poultry. As if these weren't enough, Nestlé made sure that the healthy yogurt products pass the kids' "yummy" taste test.

Nestlé Yogurt Fun Mix comes in two delicious flavors: Banana Blast and Very Vanilla. Each pack is paired off with nutritious and crunchy cereal toppers, Koko Crunch and Snow Flakes, which kids will enjoy sprinkling over the smooth, custardy yogurt treat—double the fun, double the health, double the taste.

The very wacky Nestlé Yogurt Squeeze comes in bright plastic tubes that are so convenient to eat. Available in two, sweet, fruity flavors—Strawberry-Banana and Orange Burst—kids will have a fun and easy time squishing the good stuff down their happy throats.

The perfect health snack for children, Nestlé Yogurt Fun Mix and Nestlé Yogurt Squeeze are great for breakfast or as *baon* in school, for snacking while watching TV or surfing the Net. Mothers will love the fact that kids love these nutritious, delicious delights from Nestlé.

In the years to come, trust Nestlé, the expert in yogurt, to come up with more innovations, healthier snack preparations and yummier foodstuffs, all for the love of kids.



THE PRESENCE of popular young rapper and TV heartthrob Carlos Agassi added glitz and style to the recent inauguration of the newly renovated Dunkin' Donuts shop located at the UG/F of SM North Edsa. According to Cora B. Lugtu, Dunkin' Donuts product manager, the new look of Dunkin' Donuts depicts the young and vibrant spirit of Dunkin' Donuts. Carlos and other guests enjoyed the sumptuous freshly made doughnuts and other delicious Dunkin' goodies after the ceremonial ribbon-cutting. Customers who frequent SM North Edsa will once again fully enjoy their favorite *pasalubong* Dunkin' Donuts.

Seven chefs and four counters make a highly popular 'misono'

A GOOD beginning never ends. That's Saisaki in English for you. Among food lovers, it refers to fine Japanese cuisine, a dining experience characteristic of the land of its culinary inspiration. The restaurant opened its doors in 1985, at the height of a Japanese food craze that first the trendy districts of New York and other capitals, and has since been familiarizing Manila diners with the varied textures and flavors of Japan. Some dishes, we eagerly embraced; others intrigued us at the very least. What's consistent is that the preparations were always innovative and one is sure to expect something new and different to emerge from their bustling kitchen.

Saisaki executive chefs Isao Takada and Domeng Villaflor have been working side by side since Day One, concocting a tableau of Japanese dishes tailored to the Filipino palate and pocket. Their latest project is *misono*, a teppanyaki spread to be relished for its presentation as much as the taste. It's culinary entertainment, food with a sideshow of spatula-twirling and salt and pepper shaker-throwing.

Chef Domeng says training to be a teppan chef could take from three weeks to four months. "Aside from being skillful, one needs to be personable and relate well to customers," he says. "It requires a lot of practice because not only do you make sure the food is prepared to the customer's liking, you're also entertaining them with your skills in handling utensils."

A good teppan chef should be conversant in the food being served including where the ingredients come from and other useful information. At Saisaki Glorietta, seven chefs take turns manning four counters, which start grilling for the lunch crowd at 11 a.m. every day. Garbed in starched white aprons and a chef's hat, they are both masterful and accommodating.

Unlike traditional Japanese teppan bars where a chef wheels the ingredients in a cart and cooks the food in an open grill in front of the customer, Saisaki has put up stand-alone grills exclusively for *misono* diners.

The growing popularity is due largely to its affordability and variety. Diners pay P450 (inclusive of all taxes and free of service charge) for the all-you-can-eat *misono*, P900 for unfinished orders and P225 for children below 4 ft. The price covers a selection of US rib eye steak, Norwegian salmon, prawns, tenderloin, swordfish, squid, *usuyaki* (that's rolled beef slices with garlic and spring onions), chicken fillet, fresh oysters (seasonal), *yaki udon*, *yasai moriawase*, *moyashi* and, whenever available, *enoki* or winter mushroom. There is also a serving of mixed tempura, a sushi sampler plate, *miso* soup, Saisaki salad and fresh fruits for dessert.

Saisaki's *misono* has fast become a favorite among locals and expats alike as well as young executives. On any given week, one can expect a beeline leading to its counters whether it's off payday or not. Chef Domeng believes it's the best test of a good product. "Customers who come in know they get value for money. Saisaki's Misono gives them that plus entertainment, too. Filipino diners like to be pampered when they eat out and they can expect no less than a delightful experience when they visit us."

Saisaki has branches on Pasay Road, Edsa and at Glorietta 3.

CCA
Center for Culinary Arts

TOURNEING competition at CCA

Have it delivered and win a prize

TEQUILA Joe's has got something up its sleeves that will have every T. aficionado whooping with joy.

TJ's WOW (Worm on Wheels) delivery service continues to bring Southwestern cuisine right to every TJ fan's doorstep. What's more, TJ will be giving away some fantastic prizes that will keep customers rushing to the phones to call WOW.

For a minimum order worth P350, a customer will automatically be entitled to a Joe's Mileage Plus Card upon delivery. Every time he orders through the TJ's WOW, the friendly rider stamps one of the 10 blocks illustrated on the card. Except for the first block, the succeeding corresponding blocks entitle customers to a variety of freebies—iced tea, fries, soda, cheese singles, bottled water, ice cream, discounts and premiums! These free items will be claimed through delivery together with the customers' order.

Now, that's not all! Once all the 10 blocks have been marked, customers must fill out the perforated portion of the card and surrender it to WOW riders or drop in drop boxes located at all TJ's branches to qualify for the big raffle. Grand prize is a trip for two to Boracay courtesy of Asian Spirit and Pearl of the Pacific.

It doesn't stop there! There are two grand raffle prizes to be drawn. Raffle draws are in June and December. Promo is ongoing until December.

Other consolation prizes include gift certificates, gift packs, souvenir items and many other perks.

Call TJ's WOW delivery at 636-3599/3572 (El Pueblo, Pasig); 812-0444 and 893-3777 (Glorietta, Makati); and 850-4789/9513 (Alabang Town Center).

New look for carrots

THE SHAPE and the color of the food affect its appreciation and enjoyment. The Center for Culinary Arts Manila had its first Tourneing Competition. Carrots, potatoes, zucchinis and turnips got a new look after the sharp edges of the students' tourneing knives got through them. Fourteen students entered the competition, three of them emerged as the best. Richard Conrad A. Bondad bagged the first place, with Darlo Christian Louie S. Lopez and Niño M. Runas as second and third place, respectively. The students were judged by the speed of their work, the number of tournees produced, the consistency of the size and the appearance of the tournees. This competition enhances the students' creativity in food presentation and decoration.

The Center for Culinary Arts, Manila is presently accepting applications for the January Batch 2001 of the Diploma in Culinary Arts and Technology Management. Call Jocelyn at 426-4841or Carol at 426-4836.

Catering classes at Maya Kitchen

MAYA Kitchen's certificate courses and one-day specials can teach persons on the lookout for extra income or new jobs in the food business with best results guaranteed.

A certificate course on Waitering, Housekeeping and Bartending is ongoing until Jan. 19, 1:30-5 p.m., at the Maya Kitchen for those interested in boning up skills for work opportunities in restaurants and luxury liners.

The course features creative techniques for efficient table setting and table arrangement with more than a dozen styles of napkin folding, order-taking and sequence of proper serving and basic stewarding. It also covers bartending procedures and cocktail mixing. A free snack is included.

Catering will be discussed on Jan. 27, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Topics include portion control, costing, inventory, table layout, equipment sourcing, with actual preparation of popular catering dishes such as *morcon*, *galantina*, pork *asado*, soy chicken, roast pork, baked macaroni, all-meat *paella*, three types of fried rice and special desserts.

Visit the Maya Kitchen at 8/F Liberty Building, Arnaiz Avenue (formerly Pasay Road), Makati, or call 892-1185 or 982-5011 local 108.

STAND PROUD
Witness the BEST of Filipino and International talent in
Miss Saigon
CCP MAIN THEATER
Tuesday-Sunday 8pm
Saturday-Sunday 2pm, 8pm
TICKETS AT ALL TICKET WORLD OUTLETS 8915610
CCP BOX OFFICE 8323704
Groups of 20 or more. 4007844, 9221740 • 4332226

Merry Merry Markdowns!
Extended until January 31, 2001
DUTY FREE PHILIPPINES
from 10% to 50% off!
on most items
Per DTI-NCR permit # All-379 Series of 2000

THE PUB'S interiors inspired by The Tube, London's underground transport system PHOTO: JOAN BONDOC

Going Underground for a genuine English pub experience

BY CHECHE V. MORAL

IF you're a Manilan feeling jaded about—or somewhat averse to—the city's rambunctious bar scene but feel a need to unwind, don't despair. There's a 10-month-old establishment in Makati that may just snatch you out of that humdrum existence.

Located at the lower ground level of the Palace of Makati (P. Burgos corner Caceres, Bel-Air; tel. 899-3574)), The London Underground Pub, according to managing director Simon Griffiths, is patterned after the taverns or public houses of

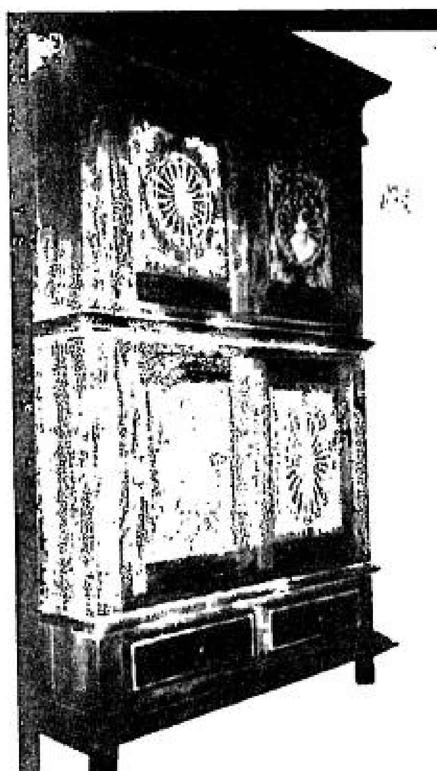
GOING/ p.B8

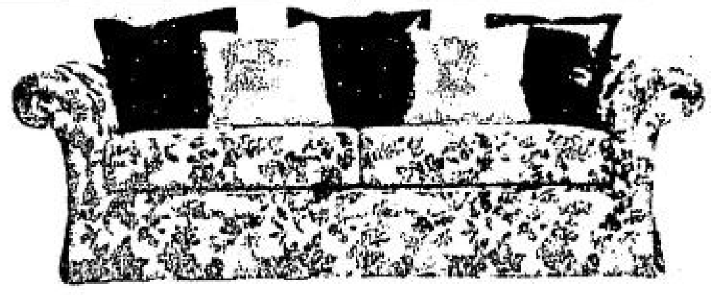
Patterned after the 19th-century taverns or public houses of Europe, Makati's newest watering hole serves authentic chips deep-fried in their jackets and drenched in malt vinegar

恭喜發財 KUNG HEI FAT CHOY
Special Tikoy
Special Ube Tikoy
Try our SPECIAL TIKOY!
Eng Bee Tin CHINESE DELI
628 Ongpin Street, Binondo Manila
Tel.: 242-9765 to 66
Bee Bee
• 518 Quintin Paredes st., near Binondo Church
• 650 Ongpin st., Binondo Manila
• Masagana Citimall, GL-8 2410-2432, Taft Avenue cor. Libertad st.
• Masagana Superstore, T.M. Kalaw st., Manila
Tel.: 242-2289 • 242-9759

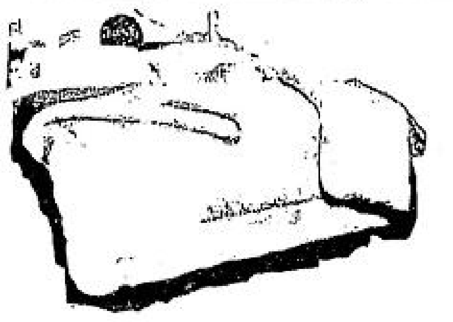
Beauty starts with a hot shower bath.
New Ariva Cristina
Fully Automatic Electronic Water Heater with Built-In ELCB
FREE Installation for residents of Metro Manila & Metro Cebu
PLDT 724-59-07
BAYANTEL 415-93-78
ARIVA WATER HEATER SYSTEMS
Only P705.17*
*12 months Installment Plan using Major Credit Cards:
•Diners •Citibank •BPI
•Visa & Mastercard

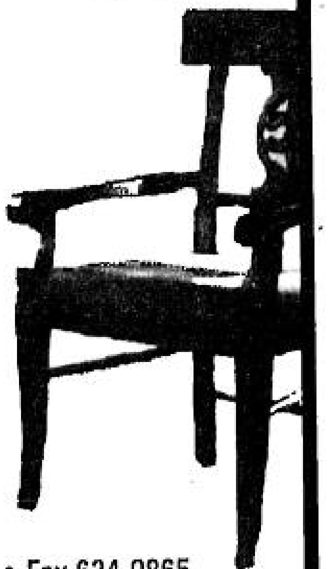
HYGEIA
FEMININE HYGIENIC UNDERWEAR
presents
The 1st Lingerie Show for 2001!
Lingerie Rendevouz
directed by Anne Gianni Falconit
JANUARY 19, 2001@CLUB SPOON
QUEUING STARTS AT 9PM
CLUB SPOON. ALABANG'S PREMIERE DANCE CLUB
2nd Level Corte de las Palmas, Alabang Town Center
FOR PARTIES & SPECIAL EVENTS CALL 8421913
Club Spoon





START THE YEAR RIGHT WITH A
2001 REBATE
January 3 to 31, 2001
Start the New Year right! At Habitat we'll give you a P2001 rebate if you buy at least P15,000 worth of furniture or accessories.
On top of that we'll give up to 20% discount on selected items.
So rush off to Habitat now!
What a way to start 2001!





Designs for Life
Habitat 25 years
LIFESTYLE CENTER
Pines cor. Sheridan Sts. Mandaluyong City • Tels. 636-4115 / 636-5141 • Fax 634-0865
This P2001 rebate is given for single receipt purchases worth at least P15,000 and above • Rebate is given only on the first P15,000 value and will be applied on the purchases. An item worth P30,000 gets only one P2001 rebate not two. • Accumulated receipts not valid.
Per DTI NCR Permit No. A3 339, Series of 2000

JOLLIBEE
EVERYDAY SPECIALS
ONLY TODAY JAN. 18
6-PC SHANGHAI ROLLS VALUE MEAL*
NOW ONLY P39
SAVE P3
★ Not available for delivery
Jollibee